

**CENTERVILLE CITY BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION
MINUTES – July 23, 2019
PUBLIC WORKS CENTER**

Call to order and welcome

Present: Sue Jessee (Chair), Carol Adams, Mary Ann Kabel, Sherry Leighty, Mary Lou Pence (Staff Liaison), Joe Presutti (Municipal Arborist), Jan Prettyman, Debbie Schmidt

Additional Attendees: Ben Ankeney, Supervisor, Public Works; Doug Spitler, Manager, Public Works

Absent: Sandy Katulak, JoAnne Rau (Council Liaison)

Call to Order and Welcome

The June 4, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as written.

Old Business

- **Maintenance of Four Corners**
 - Discussion of excessive weeds, especially purslane, and difficulty accessing the inside area of the bed at Franklin and Main Streets due to rose bushes and overgrown vegetation. Suggestions were:
 - Sherry Leighty will trim the rose bushes. She is willing to teach other Commission members how to trim the rose bushes.
 - Next year apply two applications of Preen; one during initial planting of flowers and another 2-3 weeks later. Joe Presutti stated that the more the soil is disturbed (weeding, number of foot prints in the bed, etc.) increases the chance of weeds.
 - Cut the weeds at the ground level and leave in the bed for compost. If a weed is cut three times it is less likely to return. Commission members were reluctant to do this because of aesthetics of the flower bed and difficulty to reach some weeds at the ground level.
 - Joe Presutti and Sherry Leighty will meet on Friday, July 26 to discuss options to make the bed accessible to all Commission members. Based on those options the Commission can discuss and address them for next season.
 - Joe Presutti asked the Commission if they wanted help weeding Four Corners. Members want to do the weeding but if they need help, they will either ask another Commission member or Joe for assistance.

- **Zone Judging**

Sue Jessee delivered the Community Pride award to Dayton Dental Solutions since they did not attend the Council meeting to receive the award. The third Monday of each month City Council meets at 7:30 pm and recognizes monthly City Beautiful and Community Pride winners. This meeting is open to the public and award winners are invited to attend. Council meetings are also on YouTube where winners can see the photos of their properties.

- **Close Out of Tree City Event**
 - The plaque that was presented to Centerville for hosting the Tree City Luncheon is at the Public Works office.

- Engraved Disk
 - Letter from Sidney, Ohio Mayor, Mike Barhorst, complimenting the Tree City Committee's successful event will be put in the Tree City file at the Public Works office.
 - Mary Lou Pence reported expenses were \$4,600 and revenue was \$3,000, which was within expectations and budget.
- **Recruitment of New Members**
Sue Jessee reminded Commission members we are in need of more members. Soliciting monthly CBC award winners was suggested as an option. Volunteers are also needed on other city commissions and committees. Sherry Leighty may have a candidate and will invite them to the September meeting.

New Business

- August judging deadlines for Community Pride, Mayor's Award, and monthly award are due July 30 to Sue Jessee and Mary Lou Pence. Email your first choice for Community Pride and Mayor's Award to Sue. She will tally the votes. Email new nominations for CBC award properties not previously approved to Jan Prettyman. She will forward for approval and notify whether the property is approved.
- There is no meeting in August. Next meeting is September 3, 2019.
- Future Leadership – Sue Jessee's Commission expires July 2020. The Commission approved and she agreed to be Chairperson until then when it was suggested the Commission vote in a new chairperson. The chairperson position can be shared between two people. Mary Lou will email the position description to Commission members.
- Doug Spitler will be the interim contact after Mary Lou's retirement. His email is Doug.Spitler@centervilleohio.gov, phone number 937-428-4734.
- 2020 Spring Seminar
 - Several topics were recommended by Commission members. Sue Jessee will call Siebenthaler's about presentations that are available. She will also call Centerville High School for available dates.
- Several clay flower pots imprinted with the City's logo arrived at Public Works. It was suggested that they be used in the 2020 Spring seminar.
- New Staff Liaison – Joe Presutti will continue as the Municipal Arborist liaison from Public Works for the Commission. Joe was also promoted to Group Leader. No one from Public Works has been named as the Commission liaison. Mary Lou Pence will compile her Commission duties for Doug Spitler's review to determine those that can be done by the Commission and those that can be done by the Public Works liaison.
- 2019 Mayor's Award – A slide show of properties eligible for the Mayor's Award was shown to the Commission. This was an effort reduce/eliminate the need for Commission members to drive Centerville looking at the individual properties. Mary Lou Pence will also email these pictures to Commission members. Email Sue Jessee your vote by July 30.

- The City office received a request that come recognition for property owners who have consistently maintained their yard throughout the years, even though winning a monthly award and possibly the Mayor's award. After discussion the Commission decided this would be difficult to implement and therefore will not be doing it.

Urban Forestry Update: Joe Presutti, Municipal Arborist

- Trees were trimmed uptown, the city is treating bagworms at Iron Horse Park, Japanese beetles on the roses at Four Corners, and treatments were applied to the cherry, plum, and blue spruce trees at Stubbs Park.
- The watering list was distributed to the Commission members. Joe stated that the gator water bags will be in place June through September. The large community partner winner was Bethany Village and the small community partner was Bill's Donuts. Each received the city tree, the red horse chestnut.

Council Liaison Remarks: JoAnne Rau

None - JoAnne unable to attend the meeting.

Good of the Order

- Community Pride nominations/selections – Send your vote to Sue Jessee by July 30.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. Minutes submitted by Debbie Schmidt.

Next Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 7:00 p.m.
Public Works