

Centerville City Beautiful Commission

Minutes November 4, 2015

Present: Bill Abrams, Karen Beal, Marilou Enslein, Yvonne Jacobson, Sherry Leighty, Jan Prettyman (Chairman), Debbie Schmidt, Arlene Tansey, and Mary Lou Pence (Staff Liaison).

Absent: Allen Nelson and Tom Wheeler. Also JoAnne Rau, Council liaison was absent.

The minutes from the September 8, 2015 meeting were accepted as presented with Sherry Leighty making the motion and Yvonne Jacobson providing the second.

Announcements:

- Welcome back to Bill Abrams, Jan Prettyman and Debbie Schmidt.
- Jan reminded everyone of the Veteran's Day ceremony at Stubbs Park planned for Wednesday, November 11th at 11 AM.
- Bill Abrams expressed his thanks to Marilou, Arlene, and Tom for performing Zone 7 summer landscape duties while he was on leave.

Acceptance of minutes:

The minutes from the October 6, 2015 meeting were accepted as presented with Karen Beal making the motion and Yvonne Jacobson providing the second.

Old Business:

- Summer Landscape Awards wrap up
 - Jan expressed her thanks to all who helped make the Fall Reception a success. She received many favorable comments about the fine job done. There were 7 winners who contacted the City saying they were unable to attend the reception.
 - Jan made mention that a representative from Steeplechase Apartments, the July Community Pride winner was in attendance at the reception.
 - The Mayor's award was well received with the Monnin's at 5384 Royalwood Drive being thrilled to be recognized.

New Business:

- Holiday Lighting
 - New packets in blue folders were distributed for holiday lighting. The packets included judging and award materials for the current year as well as the gift certificate for the winners, a list compiling holiday lighting award winners from 2005 – 2014, zone maps, and judging guidelines developed and updated recently by the Commission.
 - Commission members are asked to have the winner's name and address turned in by December 10th, but no later than Friday, December 11th. Release forms are required, but photographs are not needed.
 - The gift certificates for winners are from Paddy's Pub.

- A brief discussion ensued about the Community Pride award for holiday lighting. Commission members are reminded to canvas the City and send your nominations to the group so a winner can be selected. There are 2 plaques left for Community Pride holiday lighting.
- Jan reminded everyone of the upcoming Hometown Holiday Walk and Tree Lighting on Sunday, November 22nd from 1 PM to 5 PM with the tree lighting at 5:30 PM at Benhams' Grove.
- It was decided to go to Paddy's Pub on Tuesday, December 1st at 6 PM for the Commission's annual dinner. Jan will call to make arrangements.

Urban Forestry Discussion:

- Marilou Enslein reviewed the recent article in the Dayton Daily News about the City of West Carrollton offering a program to its residents that they can purchase a tree from the City and the City will plant it in their front yard. The Commission would like to explore a tree planting program in Centerville.
- Jan reviewed an e-mail from Wendi VanBuren about a new documentary entitled "Trees in Trouble". It was proposed that the DVD be rented and shown at a Commission meeting as well as at PW for the Staff. CWPD Staff could also be invited. (The DVD rental price is \$85 and the purchase price is \$250. It is 27 minutes long.)
 - Scott Buerlein, a horticulturist at the Cincinnati Zoo helped put the documentary together. It was suggested by Sherry Leighty that Mr. Buerlein be contacted as a potential speaker for an upcoming CBC sponsored seminar.
 - Jan will explore renting the film after the first of the year.
- MLP reviewed the City's planned tree planting over the next month. There will be 10 trees planted at Stubbs Park around the new Disc Golf course. There will be another 31 trees planted around town including on the new medians on Feedwire Road, on Clyo Road medians, and on various medians to replace trees that are missing. (Note: Upon question about the trees selected to be planted at Stubbs Park, specifically an Austrian pine, it is clarified that the types of trees selected for planting this year were requested by the Disc Golf people. The trees are financed via the Disc golf project.)

Report from JoAnne Rau-Council Liaison:

- Mrs. Rau was unable to attend, but reported via e-mail that the reception at the October meeting recognizing summer landscape winners was very well done.

Good of the Order:

- Sherry Leighty asked about amending the garden plot soil as she received a comment/complaint about the poor soil condition. She said possibly leaves or leaf mulch could be placed and tilled into the soil.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by: Sherry Leighty with a second by Marilou Enslein.

Next (regular) meeting: Tuesday January 5, 2016 at 7 PM. December 1, 2015 meeting will be dinner at 6 PM at Paddy's Pub.