

**Centerville City Beautiful Commission  
Meeting Minutes - January 4, 2011**

Members Present: Karen Beal, Jim Dell, Carol Farquhar-Nugent, Patty Kraft, Sherry Leighty, Allen Nelson, Mary Lou Pence, Jan Prettyman, Debbie Schmidt, Tom Wheeler

Members Absent: Marilou Enslein, Kim Engleman, Rob James

Mary Lou Pence requested corrections to the November minutes. Debbie Schmidt will correct the minutes and send to Patty Kraft for distribution.

**Four Corners and Holiday Lighting**

Patty Kraft asked for opinions about the Four Corners holiday decorations. Opinions were varied and some thought it was sparse with only the bushes having lights and not the spruce tree. The spruce tree has reached a height that is difficult to safely decorate and a tall ladder is needed to put lights on it. During the October 2011 meeting the Commission will discuss the decorating of Four Corners.

Carol Farquhar-Nugent asked about extending the judging deadline to later in December. Patty Kraft and Mary Lou Pence explained that holiday lighting winners must be decided prior to the council meeting which is held the third Monday in December. This year Debbie James, who prepares the agenda items for the council meetings, was on medical leave and her assistant was getting everything organized in advance of the council meeting. Also the poinsettia gift card from Siebenthalers expires in December and extending the deadline would shorten the timeframe the winners would enjoy it. Holiday lighting award stories were shared.

**Tree removal, replacement, and maintenance**

Jan Prettyman updated the committee on watering the plants at the Police Department. Lt. Casey rescinded his request for office plants to also be watered by the Commission and has requested only the lobby plants. The utility closet where the watering supplies are located is unlocked and accessible for the Commission. The Police Department requested the Commission's watering schedule to include dates and names of those watering. Commission members signed up for watering duties and Jim Dell will create a watering schedule and distribute to the Commission later the week of January 4. Debbie Schmidt asked who is responsible for a plant should it die during the Commission's care. Mary Lou Pence indicated we are to ask the Police Department dispatcher to submit a service request for Public Works to check the plants.

Mary Lou Pence mentioned that Yankee Trace requested the Commission water their plants also. Patty Kraft said no because there are not enough members to do this.

**Seminar Updates**

February 12 seminar – Kathleen Garnica will donate eight \$25 Secret Garden gift cards in lieu of a speaker's fee. However Patty Kraft requested Mary Lou Pence issue a \$50 check to Kathleen for her services. Publicity for the seminar: Sally from Benham's Grove will distribute at Benham's Grove functions between now until the February 12 program. Commission members will distribute to at Centerville businesses (please ask permission to post a flyer), co-workers, and friends. The Secret Garden will distribute a flyer to their customer base. Karen Beal will email or mail a flyer to last year's seminar attendees. The flyer will be posted on the city's

website, Stubbs Park sign, and February 7 Maureen will do a video program about the seminar. Jan Prettyman will get with Maureen about the details. Maureen will also do a press release to the Centerville-Bellbrook Times and the Neighbors section of the Thursday edition of the Dayton Daily News.

Refreshments – It was suggested Commission members provide juice and light, easy to pick up refreshments. Sherry Leighty will organize the refreshments and contact Commission members. Patty Kraft will check the Commission's supply of paper products she has at her home and will also bring the door prize tickets, pens, and a basket for the door prizes. Commission members are not eligible for door prizes. Patty will work with Sally at Benham's Grove to arrange for the set up of chairs and 6' tables.

Room layout was discussed for an efficient flow and to accommodate attendees. The entrance will be from the porch area where coat racks are located and attendees will move through the kitchen and middle room into the living room where the chairs will be set up and the speaker will be located. Overflow seating can be in the middle room as needed. Refreshments will be served after the presentation in the back room past the kitchen.

Debbie Schmidt suggested that the flyer for the March 12 seminar be distributed at the February seminar. Carol Farquhar-Nugent will prepare the flyer and distribute to Commission members for review. Patty Kraft suggested Carol look at Marvin Garden's website for information to be included in the flyer.

#### **Arbor Day – April 21, 2011**

Arbor Day festivities will be at 10 am on April 21 at Rahn Road between Royalwood and Applecreek. Mary Lou Pence asked for suggestions from the Commission for trees to be planted. Karen Beal asked if she, Jan, and Allen could research trees and make recommendations as their Tree Academy assignment. Commission agreed.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 1 at 7 pm at the Public Works building. Please come prepared to discuss and decide flowers for the Four Corners plantings.

Submitted by Debbie Schmidt