

CENTERVILLE CITY BEAUTIFUL
Minutes 10/06/2010

Members present: Marilou Enslein, Patty Kraft, Allen Nelson, Kim Engelman, Jim Dell, Karen Beal, Mary Lou Pence, Jan Prettyman, John Beals, Rob James

Tom Wheeler and Sherry Leighty were introduced and welcomed to the group. They will be sworn in and become members of the Commission at the October 18, 2010 City Council Meeting.

Patty announced that a picture of Allen appeared in the "Neighbors" section of the Dayton Daily News, September 23 edition, in conjunction with activities at Primary Village South school.

An article featuring "The Secret Garden" appeared in the October, 2010 issue of House Trends magazine.

A new membership roster was distributed to all members present.

A review of the summer residential and business awards disclosed that attendance at the award ceremony and reception for residential winners on September 20 was highly successful. This was attributed to winners being contacted multiple times prior to the event as a reminder. Kim suggested that each Commission member contact their individual winners prior to next year's ceremony to lessen the time required of Patty. It was reported that City Council praised the Commission members for the quality of the ceremony and the reception. Most of the garden rocks were received by the winners at the reception however, those remaining, were later distributed to winners not present by the appropriate Commission member. Marilou and Patty thanked all who participated and made this event successful.

The membership was reminded that candidacy for the Mayor's Award must be reviewed and discussed by the membership for concurrence. The Mayor's Award may be given to both residential and business properties who are eligible.

Rob James requested that the Commission act as a "Tree Board" to assist the city in assessing the need and placement of trees which, in turn, enables the city to continue receiving a "Tree City" award annually. Support of the Commission is necessary since there is no longer a horticulturist for the City of Centerville. Rob also reiterated that Commission members need to attend the "Tree Academy" if possible, to increase their knowledge base. There were several questions regarding landscaping in the city which were addressed and answered by Rob and Mary Lou Pence. Status of the ash bore infestation issue was discussed at some length, and the city is currently planting heritage trees in Stubbs Park and removing those trees in questionable to poor condition. The ash bore has not been identified in the city as yet.

The flower beds at Four Corners will be dismantled by Public Works in the near future. Patty and Marilou thanked everyone who helped weed and maintain the beds during this season. A question of possibly planting different flowers in these areas next year was raised. This will be addressed at the February, 2011 meeting. Marilou thanked Public Works for supplying the Preen weed control, assisting with trash removal and weeding for the beds during the growing season.

A review of the proposed guidelines for the Commission members was conducted. The reason for establishing the guidelines is essentially to assist new members in becoming aware of what the function of the Commission entails, and to review these functions with existing members. The guidelines were reviewed systematically and required few changes. The basic calendar for the year was also reviewed and changes were implemented. A question of judging the back yards of Yankee Trace residences since there are many beautiful yards facing the golf course itself, was raised. The discussion was tabled for discussion at a later date.

The possibility of including churches and entrances to condo complexes for City Beautiful awards was raised. This issue will be discussed at the January, 2011 meeting.

The SPRING SEMINAR will be presented on Saturday, March 12, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the training room of the Public Works building. Mr. Marvin Duran, DBA "Marvin's Organic Gardens", will address organic care of lawns and plants and composting. Cost for his presentation is \$125.00 and he will provide multiple "door prizes" as well as his expertise. This is free to the public. Publicity for the event will be VIA the Town Crier publication, fliers and "Let's Talk Centerville" public access TV Channel 5.

Future potential speakers for subsequent seminars include Kathleen Garnica from the "Secret Garden", Janice Middlekamp from Siebenthaler's, and a representative of Knollwood Garden Center. Additional seminars for 2011 are under consideration.

The next meeting is NOVEMBER 2, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., Public Works building

BE SURE TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 2!!!

Submitted by Jan Prettyman