

CENTERVILLE CITY BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

7:00 PM in the Public Works Building

Present: Carol Adams, Gretchen Franck, Mary Ann Kabel (Co-Chair), Sue Jessee, Jan Prettyman, Debbie Schmidt, Drew Simon (City of Centerville Community Resources Coordinator), Austin Steinke, Jotham Smith (Public Works),

Absent: Bob Baldino (Co-Chair), Fredia Black, Nancy Dyer, JoAnne Rau (Council Liaison)

Call to Order and Welcome

- Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM
- Debbie Schmidt motioned to accept July 11, 2023 meeting minutes, Jan Prettyman seconded. Minutes approved.

Staff Report – Drew Simon

- City is adding 130 parking spots. Some privately-owned business parking spots may charge for parking.
- West wall of the Meridian Restaurant is next mural site. The city has advertised a call for artists with selection at the end of September.
- Stubbs Park renovation is out for bid.
- Benham's Grove will have a public open house to view the renovation project on August 29 from 4 to 6 pm.
- September 13 is the Volunteer Salute dinner at Yankee Trace. Invitations to be sent in a couple of weeks.
- The City Council is looking to add more green sustainability in Centerville. It is envisioned this effort will involve more volunteers especially with horticulture experience. Kate Bostdorf is responsible for the Sustainability Committee which will dovetail into the new sustainability initiative. Mary Ann suggests the environmentally green buildings within Centerville as a recruiting opportunity for members to serve on the committee. The anticipated speaker at the 2024 CBC spring seminar (Pam Corle-Bennett) could discuss this and advertise for citizens to participate on the committee.
- Drew has received 46 nominations from the community for landscaping awards. He will email nominations to commission members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Four Corners

- The beds look good. Jotham credited the starter fertilizer upon planting and the new irrigation system to the success of the beds. Grunder is weeding bi-weekly.

Farmer's Market

- Gretchen will have a handout on boxwood blight, leafminer damage, box tree moth, and the winter injury that has affected area boxwoods. This information is from The Ohio State University Extension Office and the Ohio Department of Agriculture.
- Gretchen, Sue, and Debbie will be at the CBC booth.

Summer Landscaping Awards

- Square One was voted as the August Community Pride winner. Sue will obtain the paperwork. Public Works will move the Community Pride sign between winners each month.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Recruiting

- Drew will contact landscape winners that indicated they may be interested in joining the City Beautiful Commission.

Town Crier

- Next issue will promote the holiday awards.
- Drew will write the article about City Beautiful Commission.

Urban Forestry Update: Jotham Smith

- Weed control continues throughout the city. Records must be kept about weed control for compliance with the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Jotham created a detailed spreadsheet indicating where weed control was applied, what was used, and the quantity. This resulted in high marks from the ODA when they reviewed the city's records.
- Public Works is responsible for tree removal due to storms which are on public right of ways. They removed trees from Walford Street, Alpine Rose Court, and Agave and Rye business.
- Trees in the median were removed. This provided a stump grinding teaching opportunity for Public Works staff.
- Removed invasive pear trees near Williamsburg Street and South Main by Westerly Drive.
- Jotham will be presenting a webinar about cultivating a safety mindset about tree removal August 24, 2024. CBC may consider this as a subject for the spring seminar if Pam Corle-Bennett is unable to present.
- Jotham shared bed design ideas for the city limit signs throughout the city. A few beds will be updated each year versus updating all at the same time. Plantings discussed were Fine Line Buckthorn, weigelia (wine and roses variety), black and yellow tulips, and clematis in the larger beds.

Council Liaison Remarks – JoAnne Rau was absent.

Good of the Order – No additional items to report.

Sue Jesse motioned to adjourn the meeting and Carol Adams seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm. Minutes submitted by Debbie Schmidt.

Next Commission Meeting

Tuesday, September 5, 2023, 7:00 PM

Public Works Building