

CENTERVILLE CITY BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

7:00 PM in the Public Works Building

Present: Bob Baldino (Co-Chair), Fredia Black, Nancy Dyer, Gretchen Franck, Mary Ann Kabel (Co-Chair), Jan Prettyman, Debbie Schmidt, Drew Simon (City of Centerville Community Resources Coordinator), Austin Steinke, Steve Connor (Public Works), JoAnne Rau (Council Liaison)

Absent: Carol Adams, Sue Jessee

Guest: Mariah Vogelgesang, Centerville Assistant City Manager

Call to Order and Welcome

- Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM
- Jan Prettyman motioned to accept August 8, 2023 meeting minutes, Mary Ann Kabel seconded. Minutes approved.

Staff Report – Drew Simon

- The flowers that have been a line item in our budget are moving to the Public Works' budget, so all the plant items are together.
- Mariah discussed that the city would like consistency of the flowerbeds throughout the city. A committee of 8-10 members (including 2 from the City Beautiful Commission) would present their input (theme, color scheme, flowers, etc.) to the city for their final decision. She suggested that the CBC discuss their ideas and decide who would represent the CBC. This will be decided at the October meeting. Beginning in 2024, the city will redo a couple flowerbeds each year. Grunder Landscaping will continue to maintain the flowerbeds.
- Flower bed designs around the city limit signs should include some color for most of the seasons. The CBC felt the design with tulips previously presented would not be long lasting and create additional maintenance work for Public Works.
- The city summer events were well attended. The Fall Festival is September 30.
- Farmer's market attendance was disappointing. Drew and the park district will re-evaluate and determine a plan for 2024. Farmer's markets across the area have suffered since COVID and many have transitioned to a subscription service which is working well. Centerville does many other events well to engage residents, perhaps we exit from the farmer's market.
- The Mayor selects businesses from city employees' nominations to be awarded with business tree planting each fall. The business will receive a Red Horse Chestnut tree which is Centerville's official city tree. This year's winners are Centerville Washington Township Parks, Kettering Health, and the Scratching Post.

OLD BUSINESS:

Summer Landscaping Awards

- Invite monthly landscaping award winners from each zone to the council meetings where they and their property will be recognized.
- Miami Valley South Hospital was voted as the September Community Pride winner.
- The Mayor's award was voted as 62 Coachman Drive. Nancy will award the homeowner.

2024 Spring Seminar

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- Drew has left Pam Corle-Bennett messages about presenting at the 2024 spring seminar as well as her invoice for presenting at the 2023 spring seminar. He has not received a response. Mary Ann will attempt to contact her.
- Other suggestions as a back up presenters at the 2024 spring seminar are Jotham Smith from Centerville Public Works and the person responsible for landscaping at Miami Valley Hospital South/Premier Health.

Recruiting

- Drew will contact landscape winners about joining the City Beautiful Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Volunteer Salute is September 13, 6:00 pm at Yankee Trace.

Holiday Gathering

- Mary Ann will call Chop House for availability December 5 or 12. Voting on the holiday community pride will be at this time.

Urban Forestry Update: Steve Connor

- Public Works is pruning trees throughout the city to clear the right of ways
- Oak trees are being treated for a manganese iron deficiency. A contractor will apply the treatment and Public Works will maintain the trees.
- Public Works is working on the tree city application.

Council Liaison Remarks – JoAnne Rau

- The open house presenting Benham's Grove renovation was not well attended. Bids for construction will go out in October.
- Community Leadership Forum is October 14 from 8:30 am – 11:00 am.

Good of the Order – No additional items to report.

Bob Baldino motioned to adjourn the meeting and Austin Steinke seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm. Minutes submitted by Debbie Schmidt.

Next Commission Meeting

Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 7:00 PM

Public Works Building