
**Citizens' Beautification Committee
Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2014
Osborn Room, Bloomington Police Station**

Members Present: Josh Barnett, Martha Burk, Amy Davis, Anne Driskell, Val Dumser, Sue Floyd, Marlene Gregor, Erica Larkin, Patricia Morin, Tammi Winters

Members Absent: Julie Morton

Staff Present: Jeff Hindman, John Kennedy

Guests Present: Amy Krause, Robin VanDerMay

John Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Election of Officers

John welcomed everyone to the meeting and we immediately moved to election of officers. John stated that the normal term of an officer is May – April, in conjunction with the city administrative year and committee member appointments. With the resignation of Chairman Stan Cain from the committee in December 2013, our election has shifted for the current year. John went on to say that the officers elected tonight would serve until April 30, 2015. Anne Driskell led the committee through the process for the election and read the names that had been submitted into nomination. The nominees were, for chairman: Josh Barnett, Patricia Morin; for vice-chairman: Josh Barnett, Martha Burk, Patricia Morin. Each candidate for chairman was given the opportunity to share their qualifications with the committee. At the conclusion of the presentations, Anne distributed ballots. After all votes we tallied, Josh Barnett was elected chairman and Martha Burk was elected vice-chairman.

Josh thanked the committee for their vote of confidence and Patricia for the friendly competition. He gave special thanks to Anne for her work in running the nomination and election and stated he looked forward to working with all of the committee members over the next 16 months.

Public Comment

None

Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes of the November 2013 meeting were not available for approval. They will be reviewed and approved at the February meeting.

2014 Clean Up Week

Clean Up Week will be held April 19 – 26. Michael Brown from the Ecology Action Center was not able to attend the meeting but the committee discussed the EAC's upcoming Wellness Expo on Saturday, April 12, 2014. The committee agreed to have a table and distribute literature promoting Clean Up Week. Robyn agreed to reach out to Michael Brown and invite him to attend the February meeting.

Amy Krause displayed several poster designs she created for Clean Up Week. A vote was taken on the various designs and the winning design showcases a tree. Amy K will complete the design for the February meeting. The committee agreed that a smaller version of the poster might be a nice handout for the Wellness Expo. Amy agreed to work on this as well. John requested Amy provide a price quote for the cost of having posters and literature printed.

Josh asked for volunteers for a Clean Up Week Team to work on details outside of the regular committee meeting. Tammi Winters agreed to serve with help from Robyn and Amy K.

Arbor Day 2014

Josh, Patricia and Anne agreed to serve on the Arbor Day Team. Patricia noted there were a couple possibilities for schools. They agreed to meet and firm up details – and then report back at the February meeting. Jeff Hindman would begin to look at trees and determine some good options for us to give to the third grader students.

Other Business

- Website updates – Josh asked John who he could contact within the city to make changes to the committee section of the city website. John directed Josh to Craig McBeath.
- Contact Sheet Updates – Anne offered to update the contact sheet and send to Josh
- Secretary and Historian Positions – While not elected positions, the committee has traditionally had a secretary and it was suggested by some committee members that a historian would also be a good idea. Patricia suggested working with the Bloomington Public Library or the McLean County Museum of History to archive the committee files. Amy Davis agreed to check with the Museum of History as she volunteers there. There was more discussion on the need for a secretary. Anne offered to chair the process of soliciting a secretary as she did a chairman and vice-chairman. Josh asked the committee if this was acceptable and it was agreed this was a good process to use. A secretary should be in place at the February meeting.
- Ordinance governing committee was distributed for all to read.
- Meeting time – John said the Osborn Room had been secured for the rest of 2014. This will be the standard meeting location for the remainder of the year.

DBA Design Committee Report

Martha shared that the Downtown Bloomington Association has calendars for sale and that a recent greens sales went very well. She said the DBA Mural Committee is considering options in downtown and their next project. Other items the committee is working on include converting used alleys in downtown to public spaces and painting electrical boxes. Lastly, Martha shared that there would be two public meetings about the new streetscape lighting plan for Downtown Bloomington. Josh indicated he planned to attend one of the meetings.

Parks & Recreation Report

Jeff reported that crews were still removing ash trees within the city. They have treated all good trees and were moving to treat and remove (if needed) ash trees in medium health. The ash trees are being recycled into various items for parks (benches, signs, etc) and also as mulch for the city and citizens.

John asked the committee to save the date for Saturday, May 10. There will be a celebration to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of Constitution Trail. It will be held at the Connie Link

Amphitheater in Normal. In a related matter, an enhancement plan has been developed for Constitution Trail. John also mentioned that the grand opening for the new Eagle View Park on the city's far northeast side would be scheduled soon.

Other Business

Amy D reported she would file our request for a table at the Master Gardeners event on Saturday, March 1. She said there was a filing fee and hoped it would be waived. Josh agreed to work on a promotional piece that could be distributed at the event. Anne and Josh agreed to work on a table display.

Amy D also shared that a grant to Wild Ones was submitted and she hoped to hear back soon. She will update the committee at the February meeting.

Josh thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.