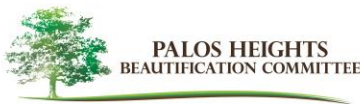


CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS



Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes March 22, 2018

Vice-Chairman John Hanley called the meeting of the Beautification Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were: John Hanley, Lois Duran, Bob Grossart, Alderman Jeff Key, Ed Dombrowski, Anne Girzadas, and Jan Collopy. Also present was Recording Secretary Pat Sheppard. Absent were Bob Grossart, Eileen Lunter, Gary Duran, and Bridget Provost.

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chairman Hanley requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2018 meeting. So moved by Anne Girzadas, seconded by Bob Grossart. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman's Report:

No Report

Committee Reports

Adopt-A-Pot. Ed Dombrowski said planting day was scheduled for Saturday, May 19 at 8:00 a.m. in the pool parking lot. They need approximately 30 volunteers to help plant all the planters. He was in the process of choosing the plants for this year. He also noted sponsors were needed for the pots. He complimented and thanked Denise Hyker for all the work she does to obtain sponsors.

Farmer's Market: Anne Girzadas

- Opening day was Wednesday, May 9, 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the municipal parking lot.
- Vendor spots were almost filled. With the proposed construction of the expansion of the municipal parking lot this summer, Anne was a little apprehensive about how it was going to affect the market and/or vendor spots. She had met on site with the Director of Public Works, Scott Smith, to talk about project. He assured her that they would not let the construction interfere with the farmers market on Wednesday's until after 1:00 p.m.
- Palos Health (Hospital) was going to provide dieticians for onsite cooking classes.
- The Community Tent was almost filled as well with only one (1) open date.
- In regards to sponsors, Anne said she lost Well Being MD for this year and she was working on filling that vacancy.
- She was looking for affordable face painters and musicians and put a shout out in the April E-Newsletter.
- The indoor Winter Market was coming to end on April 21. Attendance had been very good, averaging 250 – 300 each month.

Classic Car Event: On behalf of Bob Starzyk, Anne Girzadas reported the following:

- Updating the sponsorship letter was completed and letters were sent out.
- A volunteer form was created and was going to be sent to the area high schools.
- The committee was still working on a sponsor for the raffle.

Recognition Night: Lois Duran said the date for this year was October 18.

Lake Katherine: No Report

Public Arts Commission: John Hanley reported the following:

- The PAC was helping to promote the city-wide effort to help save the monarch butterflies with a “Kites Take Flight” project. John showed the committee one of the butterflies that would be placed in various locations around town, noting they would be in different sizes. John said the Parks and Recreation Department had a kite fly day planned.
- The PAC was participating in the Nature and Arts Festival being held at Lake Katherine on April 28 and would be offering art projects for children.

BEAC: Bob Grossart

Holidays in the Heights 2018. Bob told the committee that the Holiday in the Heights committee had their first meeting recently to begin planning for the 2018 event. He reviewed some of the ideas the committee had to improve the event which included renting two (2) large 60’ x 90’ heated tents. Bob said the rental cost for that size was \$2,700 x 2 = \$5,400.00. Bob then reviewed the proposed expenses and revenue for the 2018 event (attached), both totaling \$17,000. He explained they were going to ask the City to commit to funding \$7,000, and he requested the Beautification Committee to consider funding \$5,000, although he thought they may only need \$3,000. Bob hoped the event would be better and bigger this year with a larger committee and planning started much earlier. Their goal was to attract at least 600 people this year. Discussion ensued on vendors and advertising.

Alderman Jeff Key reported that construction on the Ridgeland Avenue Corridor project was scheduled to begin on May 1, which included the installation of a multi-use path from 127th Street to Rt. 83. The medians near Rt. 83 and 135th Street would be planted similar to the ones on Harlem Avenue. He further explained funding for this project had been obtained from the Southwest Conference of Mayors and the City’s portion was 20%. He gave the committee a little history on how this project began and how many years it took to go through the process with all involved entities.

New Business

- Vice Chairman Hanley told Bob Grossart the committee could not vote on his funding request this evening because it was not in the agenda (Open Meeting Act requirement), but the request would be placed on the agenda for the May meeting.
- Funding request for the Municipal Parking Lot Water Feature.
Vice Chairman Hanley reminded the committee they had discussed this project at previous meetings. Unfortunately, John did not have any plans or drawings to share with the committee at this point because the Mayor and City staff were meeting with the landscape architect the next day, but the Mayor had shared estimated costs for the water feature with John. The Mayor was requesting the Beautification Committee to consider

donating \$20,000.00 towards the cost of the water feature.

Vice Chairman Hanley moved to approve funding for the water feature in the municipal parking lot in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Discussion: Ed Dombrowski asked that the finalized plans be shared with this committee, but understood the need to secure funding now. The committee agreed that they would like to see the plans and a rendering of the water feature. Alderman Key stated that partial funding had been approved by the Southwest Conference of Mayor's for the parking lot improvements. He also noted, based on the construction schedule, that there were plans to use the expanded parking lot for City events such, as concerts. Anne Girzadas said she was okay with donating the funds but reiterated her concern about how the construction schedule would affect the Farmers Market this summer. Alderman Key assured her the City would work with her on that.

Chairman Hanley asked for a second on the motion, so moved by Ed Dombrowski. On a voice vote, **the motion carried unanimously.** Funding request approved.

Old Business

Anne Girzadas inquired about funding the cost to place additional trash cans on the Cal Sag Trail and doggie waste bags dispensers on the trail and in all the city parks. She was unsure of who was responsible for these things. Alderman Key said Lake Katherine was responsible for maintaining the portion of the trail that ran through Palos Heights and he thought the Friends of the Cal Sag provided some funding for maintenance. Anne felt the need for additional trash cans was urgent, especially with the weather getting better, noting there was garbage everywhere on the trail and the few trash receptacles were always over-flowing. In regards to the doggie poop bag dispensers, Anne recalled this committee had discussed the subject before. Alderman Key thought some of the parks had the dispensers and he recommended contacting Mike Leonard, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Pat Sheppard reminded the committee they had previously talked about looking into getting quotes for the rental of tents, portable bathrooms, etc. in conjunction with other city-sponsored events to see if there would be a cost savings. Pat said she had talked with Joe Smith (Parks and Recreation Department) regarding that and they had already secured contracts for this year. He said if he could get the list of dates for all city-sponsored events by first of the year (2019), he would see what he could do, although he did not think there would be a price break on tent rentals.

Adjourn.

There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Hanley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Anne Girzadas.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Sheppard, Recording Secretary