

## **Beautification Commission**

### **March 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Call to order.** Bruce called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

**Attendance.** Kim Absent. Bruce Holiman, Sarah DeBray, Lila Raymond, Charlotte Lea in attendance.

**Approval of November 8 Minutes.** Bruce called for a motion to approve the November 8, 2021 meeting minutes. Sara Debray made the motion and was seconded by Lila Raymond. Motion passed.

**Budget.** Glenda provided an updated budget showing Rosehill expenses to date. No significant changes otherwise.

#### **New Business.**

**March Planters.** The group discussed having to move the event to the last weekend in March to accommodate better weather. Glenda will confirm with Donnie on the best time on either March 26 or 27. Glenda and Donnie will both work on getting volunteers.

**MODOT ROW Project.** Glenda gave an update on the City's check-in meeting with MODOT regarding the upkeep needs for the 470 and 291 native plantings locations. MODOT says the best action for 470 is to return to their regular mowing schedule and not plant new seeds for the next 2-3 years. This is to allow for the proper mitigation of the overgrown Thistle as they' have to do intense weed spraying for the next few years to cut it back to a manageable level. Mitigating the Thistle defeats the purpose of reseeding with wildflowers at this time.

For the 291 corridor, MODOT recommends the Commission either plant native grasses instead of wildflowers or discontinue to wildflower beautification effort of that location altogether. The native grasses would have a better chance for survival than the wildflowers.

The Commission agreed to have the MODOT ROW locations revert back to their original conditions and wait a few years before revisiting the beautification program. Bruce noted that next time a project like this is developed there would need to be a better plan in place when multiple government entities are involved to ensure its success. Glenda added that Parks, Public Works and Development Services departments are supportive of exploring alternative city-owned locations and community education efforts related to promoting native grasses, plants and environmental sustainability.

**Arbor Day and Sweet the Summit.** Bruce moved to table the Arbor Day and Sweep the Summit events for one year to create the space to reinvent the programs during the boards and commissions restructuring process that is being proposed by the City. Lila seconded the motion adding emphasis on "reinventing" the programs next year so that they can make a bigger impact in the community.

**Adjournment.** Seeing as there was no new business or announcements, Bruce adjourned the meeting at 6:44PM. Next meeting will be April 11 at 6:00pm in Strother Conference Room.