

WEST ALLIS BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, November 14, 2016 – 7:00 PM

West Allis City Hall

7525 W. Greenfield Ave.

Present: Mike Rushmer, Andi Hetzer, Marcia Lawson, Linda Taylor, Sharon Plucinski, Judith Schmidt, Judy Hutto, Paul Bodshaug, Mary Johnson, Christina Lund

Excused: Patricia Wolfe, Charlene Dempsey

Old Business

Approval of Minutes from July Meeting

Approval of Minutes from September Meeting

2016 Awards Ceremony

- The Committee agreed that the amount of food was better this year, not too many left overs
- Next year be sure to label on program which district is represented for Porch and Patriotic
- Many Committee members preferred to read judging/review scores aloud when compiling scores, they liked to get input from others before submitting their scores
- Next year we should send a letter to those were not selected, thanking them for participating and encouraging them to continue their good work

New Business

Welcome Signs

- Most signs welcoming people into the city are outdated
- Committee members will take photos of welcome signs in other communities, get inspiration for new designs, will send photos/ideas to Mike or Andi (Judy S – Muskego; Christina – Tosa, Brown Deer, Shorewood, Whitefish Bay, Fox Point; Linda – Franklin and Oak Creek; Marcia and Sharon – New Berlin; Mary – Saukville, Port Washington, Grafton, Cedarburg; Paul – Waukesha)
- Committee members discussed idea of having new signs made in the same style as the newer sign on 70th & Walker (Gateway)
- Discussed possibilities of having new lights use solar lights for night time, and possibly having local businesses sponsor the signs to help offset the cost
- Locations of new signs would be 76th and Pierce, 92nd and Schlinger, 124th and Greenfield, 76th and Oklahoma, and possibly more

Committee Reports

CDBG

- Last meeting was at the end of September
- Street Beautification will be getting approximately \$22,000 for 2017
 - This money will go to trees/shrubs/annuals in boulevard beds
 - Forestry did not get as many grants as we wanted this year so this money will be very helpful in 2017
- New playground equipment was installed at Liberty Heights and Veterans Parks
- Potential projects are the Roosevelt playground and Rogers Park

Staff Reports

2016 Removal Summary

- Over 500 trees removed in 2016
 - Some trees were dying
 - Many of the trees were removed pre-emptively due to EAB (Ash trees near electrical wires)
 - Pre-emptive removals will continue over about a 5 year period

2017 Planting Proposal

- Forestry would like to plant about 600 trees
- Bids have already been received from vendors
- Awaiting results of 2017 Budget before making final selections and purchase

2016 Holiday Displays

- Trees will be harvested and installed the week of Thanksgiving, weather permitting
- Locations this year: 112th and National, 97th and National, 60th and Arthur, 76th and Beloit, 70th and Walker, Log Cabin and Historical Society
- After trees are decorated, photos will be taken by Communications department. These photos will be framed and given to donors at 2017 Beautification Awards
- Boughs from trees will be used for insulation in City planting beds, as well as for the nativity scene at City Hall, and for decorations in Candy Cane Lane

New Installations in boulevards - 76th North

- City Arborists are designing a new feature to be tested using posts and metal cables
- Vines will be planted that will cover the cables, creating a living wall of foliage in the boulevard

Guerilla Bulb Planting

- Forestry was notified by Mayor that a volunteer group has organized the planting of Tulip and Daffodil bulbs throughout the City
- Known locations are the old Allis Chalmers site, the Municipal Yards, 65th and Beloit
- This group is considering doing a second planting at more locations

Meeting Dates for 2017 – PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 9 th	July 10 th (tentative date for review of nominations)
March 13 th	September 11 th (tentative date for awards ceremony)
May 8 th	November 13 th

Adjournment

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Upon reasonable notice, the City will furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services, when necessary, to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and to enjoy the benefits of a service, program or activity provided by the City. It is the policy of the City of West Allis to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits.