



Idaho Falls Beautification Commission

Idaho Falls, ID 83405-0220

P.O. Box 50220

612-8276

June 17, 2009 — 12:00 p.m.
City Annex Conference Room
380 Constitution Way

Members Present:

Cheryl Cox, Cory Emery, Pat Fuchs, Matt Hill, Terry Miller, and Roxane Mitro.

Members Absent:

Ann Bates, Erin Kennedy, Nathan Kennedy, Linda Neeley, and Sharon Parry.

Staff Present:

Brad Cramer, Assistant Director; and Deb Petty, Recording Secretary.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Modifications to the Agenda:

None.

Minutes:

Motion by Mitro, seconded by Fuchs to approve the minutes of May 20, 2009, as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports:

1. Planning Commission – Brad Cramer
Cramer told the members that Chair Cheryl Cox recently resigned her position from the Planning Commission and they are working on revisions to the sign code.
2. Historic Preservation Commission – Rox Mitro
Mitro said the members had a great deal of business to accomplish during their last meeting so the Beautification Award Nomination Program presentation was postponed until the July meeting.

3. Parks & Recreation Commission – Terry Miller
Miller said this year is the 75th anniversary for the Tautphaus Park Zoo and next year is the 75th anniversary for the Pinecrest Golf Course. The commission is putting together a committee to work on the two events.

Hill said the citywide clean-up was brought up at the meeting and it was noted that 58 full-size dumpsters (12 cubic yards each) were taken to the dump. Miller said one of the commission members was disturbed that no 'Certificates of Participation' were given out because it was a missed opportunity to keep a count of participants. He said the data/information is helpful when applying for future grant monies or volunteer programs. Cox noted it is a lesson learned and the group will make an effort in the future to collect this kind of data. Mitro said that she is still not in favor of paper awards as it just becomes more trash. It was suggested that sign-up sheets be used. If folks want to be recognized for their efforts they must sign-in and then Knut Meyerin can have their name printed in the newspaper. This way the data is collected and it preserves valuable resources. Cramer said originally they were going to keep track of who showed up at the park on Saturday with the use of sign-up sheets and release forms, but this did not take place.

4. Shade Tree Committee – Matt Hill
Hill said the big event for their group was the Arbor Day celebration when approximately 45 volunteers planted 101 trees along the north side of Sunnyside in 40 minutes. There are 40 trees to plant on the south side of Sunnyside from Holmes Avenue to Yellowstone Highway before the planting design is complete. He said they may do another volunteer program and purchase the trees needed with funds from tree donations in order to finish the project. Next year, it is most likely the Arbor Day planting celebration will be along the Hitt Road expansion.

Mitro asked about the planters and trees that were damaged on Yellowstone. Miller said they are being replaced with insurance money from the drivers involved. Hill said the trees were part of a CTA grant but the City assumed responsibility and the Parks and Recreation Department maintains them. He said there is a way to determine the value of a tree or planting owned by the City and that the party damaging the property is responsible for those damages. He asked the members to report any vandalism or defacement they may see of City property.

Hill said the Flower Program is going to remain an independent Parks & Recreation event and will not need the assistance of the Beautification Commission.

Awards Process:

Cramer said the commission received approval by the Mayor for \$1,000 towards the cost of awards.

Not all members received a copy of the draft nominee letter for comment. Cox is going to work with Neeley to finalize the letter so they can be mailed out as soon as possible. In the future they are to be mailed as soon as a nomination is received.

Cramer sent Knut Meyerin an email requesting a press release to remind the public of the June 26th deadline for nominations.

It was decided to address the issue of judging criteria once all nominations were submitted. To date there are only 4 nominations so it is a bit premature to decide how they will be judged. This applies to the eco-friendly nominations as well.

Cox said finding historically significant material for use in making the awards is difficult because it is a valuable and marketable item. She said it is a matter of being there the moment it is available. Mitro said she is watching the Pioneer Bookstore as they are going to remove the brick and it is very valuable.

Mitro checked into the use of pavers for awards and found they can be purchased for as little as two dollars, but they would still incur the cost of etching. She said she was referred to Etched in Stone for the etching the pavers.

Cox suggested incorporating a small paragraph from the early newspapers as part of the award. No decision was made on her suggestion.

Miscellaneous:

Fuchs talked about the landscaping project going on at the Museum of Idaho and said they are looking for volunteers from the commission or another group. It was suggested that she check with the city greenhouse, with organizers of the flowerbed program, the Sheriff's work detail, and the Master Gardener Association.

Assignments:

1. Cox will work with Neeley to finalize the nominee recognition letter and email a copy to everyone.
2. Nomination addresses and category will be emailed to the members so they can individually visit the sites and be prepared to start the judging process at the next meeting.

Adjourn:

Motion by Mitro, seconded by Hill to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Debra Petty, Recording Secretary