

**Beautification Task Force  
Minutes of the Meeting  
April 30, 2008  
Conference Room – Memorial Building**

The meeting of the Beautification Task Force was held on Wednesday, April 30, 2008 in the Board Room of the Memorial Building and was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

Present: Brian McElwain, Dr. Joe Ryne, Candy Cleveland, Nancy McKeague, Penny Bohnen

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Forester, John Finnell, Village Horticulturist, Dan Hopkins

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for the April 2, 2008 meeting were tabled till the next meeting. The Beautification Task Force will need to approve the April 2, 2008 and the April 30, 2008 minutes at the next meeting.

**Old Business**

- a.) Ms. Cleveland began the meeting by discussing the article in the Doings about the BTF. Ms. Cleveland felt that this article shed a negative light on the BTF. Other BTF members agreed with Ms. Cleveland. Mr. McElwain felt that the author doesn't have all the facts about the BTF and shouldn't make rash judgments. Ms. Cleveland volunteered to contact the author to help explain the situation and why the BTF meets when they do. Mr. Hopkins suggested the BTF publish a rebuttal in the Doings.
- b.) Mr. McElwain began a discussion about the April 14, 2008 EPS Meeting in which BTF members attended and discussed BTF goals for the future. Mr. McElwain felt the BTF was well received by the EPS Committee. Ms. Cleveland said she was a little offended by the EPS Committee when they suggested Village staff do the Master Plan for the Memorial Building. Mr. McElwain brought up the topic of RFP's for the Master Plan. Mr. Finnell suggested we should get RFP's from several qualified companies and submit these to the EPS Committee. Ms. Cleveland recommended CYLA Design to do the Master Plan. CYLA Design has done work on Millennium Park and the Bahi Temple. Ms. Cleveland went on to say that she would like someone from CYLA Design to come out to the Memorial Building to give some suggestion for the AC screening wall.
- c.) Ms. McKeague recommends that the BTF needs to get more information about the screening wall before any decision can be made. Mr. Finnell reminded the BTF that there is no funding for the wall at this time, so no decision will need to be made in the near future. Dr. Ryne brought up three questions that he feels should be answered before anything is done in regard to the screening wall. These questions are:
  1. Will there be enough airflow for the AC units to work properly if a brick wall is installed?
  2. How much money would it cost to have the AC units move to the west side of the building?
  3. When were the AC units originally installed and why were they put there?
- d.) Mr. Finnell discussed trees that were donated from Office Park. He went on to say that the Village spends \$45,000 on tree planting, \$60,000 on tree removals, and 515 elm trees are inoculated per year. Dr. Ryne feels there should be more effort put into raising awareness into the Village tree program. Mr. Finnell explained to the BTF that there is a newsletter and he is working with many schools and other organization to create more

awareness for Village trees. Ms. Bohnen said she feels the BTF has spent too much time on the Memorial Building Master Plan and needs to focus more attention on other issues such as Village trees and landscape maintenance.

- e.) Dr. Ryne reported back to the BTF on the progress of the Ogden Ave. Corridor project. He told the BTF that his twelve points were accepted and they are interested in working with the BTF.

#### **New Business**

- a.) Mr. Hopkins brought up the issue of improper use of mulch around Village and residential trees (volcano mulching). Mr. Finnell explained to the BTF how damaging this practice can be to trees. Mr. Hopkins suggested the BTF contact a local newspaper to do an article on how to properly mulch trees. He went on to say that the maintenance work being done at the Memorial Building would be a perfect opportunity to demonstrate this.
- b.) Dr. Ryne discussed how he felt that trash has become a real problem throughout the Village. He sited several locations where he witnessed excessive amounts of trash on Village property. Mr. Hopkins told the BTF that he feels that the biggest producer of trash on Village property is recycling bins. He went on to say that when residents put out there recycling bins (without lids) on windy days it produces an extremely large amount of trash on Village property.

#### **Adjournment**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote taken, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Hopkins  
Village Horticulturalist