



City of Arkansas City

BEAUTIFICATION AND TREE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 25, 2022 at 1:00 PM – Water Treatment Facility 400 W Madison Ave

I. Roll Call

PRESENT: Robin Henderson, Paisley Howerton, Harrison Taylor

ABSENT: Candace Hendricks, Nancy Holman

Staff present was Principal Planner Josh White and Building Official Mike Bellis

II. Consent Agenda

1. Meeting Minutes, February 24, 2022 and March 10, 2022

Motion made by Henderson, Seconded by Taylor to approve the minutes as written.

Voting Yea: Henderson, Howerton, Taylor

III. Old Business

1. Friends of Wilson Park update

Henderson gave an update on the process. Things are going well. Donations are coming in and the group is working with local businesses. Howerton praised the work. Henderson suggested putting up signs identifying plants. The others agreed.

IV. New Business

1. Yard of the Month discussion

Howerton said there are people interested in it. She has received nominations for yards. For those selected, a sign would be placed in the yard and they would receive recognition. An additional award was discussed but ultimately for now it would not be included. Bellis suggested waiting until October so we can locate a sign. The board discussed possibly looking at Yard of the Season instead of Yard of the Month. Howerton noted that a monthly yard encourages people to better their yard. She will look at the nomination. White and Bellis will attempt to locate the sign.

2. Neighborhood Grant discussion

White discussed the status of the funding. He said the money was budgeted for 2020 but never spent and was never budgeted after that. It is not in the 2022 budget and it is too late to get it put in the 2023 budget. Henderson asked if this money was from a grant, White replied that it wasn't. It was a part of the city's general fund and unfortunately didn't have any conditions attached to it. The board would have to lobby for it to be added back in for future years.

3. Outdoor Movie Night discussion

It was discussed that it is probably too late to start for this year. Henderson is still interested in pursuing this for next year. Citizens are still interested in them but the board will need to work on logistics. The board discussed planning a possible October movie but have to figure out the access. Howerton will look into it but encouraged waiting until late Spring to get the best deal on movies. The board will need to look into sponsorships to pay license fees. Bellis suggested asking for donations to raise funds for the Board for projects. Henderson also suggested selling popcorn or popsicles for the same reason.

4. Future of Board discussion

Bellis suggested switching to quarterly meetings. Howerton wanted to keep monthly meetings but change the scope of what the board does. The board should focus on beautifying the community and cleanup of city property. Henderson suggested being more visible as the community. Howerton would like to see more cooperation from city staff. The board made a plan to plant a tree by the end of the year. Bellis will check on that.

V. Other Miscellaneous Items

Howerton asked about social media for the board. White noted that we still don't have a communication manager and that would likely need to be handled by that person.

VI. Adjourn

Motion made by Howerton, Seconded by Henderson to adjourn the meeting
Voting Yea: Henderson, Howerton, Taylor

Henderson declared the meeting adjourned at 2:22 P.M.

DRAFT