

Arkansas City Beautification and Tree Advisory Board

1/27/22 Minutes

A regular meeting was held **Thursday, January 27, 2022**, at the Water Treatment Facility. Meeting called to order at **1:03 p.m.**

I. Roll Call:

Board Members

Robin Henderson (*via GoToMeeting*)
Candace Hendricks
Nancy Holman
Paisley Howerton
Harrison Taylor

Staff Liaisons

Randy Frazer
Evan Haney (*via GoToMeeting*)
Andrew Lawson
Connie Moore
Mendy Pfannenstiel (*via GoToMeeting*)
Josh White (*via GoToMeeting*)

II. Consent Agenda:

Candace made a motion to approve the consent agenda, consisting of the minutes of the **December 2, 2021**, regular meeting and the **2022** regular meeting calendar, as presented. Nancy seconded the motion, which was approved **4-0** on a voice vote.

Future meetings will be held **Feb. 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, Aug. 25, Sept. 22, Oct. 27** and **Dec. 1**.

Robin joined the meeting in progress at **1:06 p.m.** via GoToMeeting.

III. New Business:

Mendy said the Arkansas City Public Library had received **\$2,500** from Power of the Purse to go toward installing a second **StoryWalk**, this one to be located at **Lovie Watson Park**. The Board liked the idea, pending a formal adoption application.

Andrew said Chief Burr was unable to attend the meeting, but he showed some presentation slides the chief had shared with the City Commission and introduced **Matt Conant**, with Hog Mob Ministries, who is working together with Burr through the **Suicide Prevention of Cowley County Coalition (SPOCCC)** to beautify and improve the **West Chestnut bridge approach**.

Matt talked about the recent volunteer cleanup day at the bridge, of which Andrew showed photos. Matt said future plans include refurbishing the barricade (depending on what the county does with the bridge), providing a Suicide Lifeline number in signage (possibly with a phone on site), installing "Senior Street"-type positive messaging along the Hike-Bike Trail, installing a plaque that Hog Mob already had produced and exploring possible solar lighting options for the approach area.

Paisley made a motion to recommending approving the installation of the plaque, in coordination with the City's Public Services Department staff. Candace seconded the motion, which was approved **5-0** on a voice vote. Andrew told Matt any future installations of signage or other site improvements will need to come as part of a formal adoption process for the area.

Andrew asked for some ideas for **Spring Cleanup Day**, tentatively planned for some time during Earth Week (**April 22-29**).

Possible sites to target for this cleanup include the Chestnut Avenue underpass, Veterans Memorial Lake and Walnut Park.

IV. Old Business:

Candace asked that what the next steps should be to improve the City's **signs** and beautify its **entrances**. Randy said she needed to get a design together and seek some estimates. Andrew suggested she talk to Agora Architecture in Winfield.

The Board members wanted to see nice, clean, modern-looking signs, with brick, limestone and metal as preferred materials.

Randy said the Gingher twins only repainted the south side of the Madison Avenue underpass. The lighting was replaced, too.

Andrew presented changes to a draft spreadsheet that attempts to prioritize improvements and changes to the **City's park inventory**, going out 10 years. The Board suggested a few additional changes and amenities. The draft remains in progress.

He and Josh displayed a map showing all playgrounds in Arkansas City, including USD 470's, with ½-mile concentric blue circles around each one, which clearly displays gaps in service — Crestwood, Veterans Lake and northwest Arkansas City.

Harrison said it is hard to develop a plan without knowing what the budget will be. Andrew and Randy explained how the vision would inform future Capital Improvement Plans, elements of which the City Commission ultimately decides to fund.

V. Other Miscellaneous Items:

Randy invited the Board to attend a downtown visioning session from **11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Feb. 5** at the Burford. It will be facilitated by Kansas State University and South Dakota State University students as part of a free visioning study for the City.

Andrew explained the amendment he had to make to the annual **Mayor's Monarch Pledge** report after the **Dec. 10, 2021**, deadline. He shared several resources from a webinar, including migration and milkweed maps for the entire United States.

The next meeting of the 2022 Tacolalah Executive Committee will be at **noon February 3** at the Water Treatment Facility.

Robin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Candace seconded the motion, which was approved **5-0** on a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at **2:52 p.m.** The next regular meeting of the Beautification and Tree Advisory Board will be at **1 p.m. Feb. 24, 2022.**