

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
CLEVELAND TREE BOARD
KEEP CLEVELAND BEAUTIFUL

January 12, 2023

Members present: Betsy Abraham, Myrtis Tabb, Charlene Wolfe, Frances Janoush, Adolph Hilliard, Mary Anna Davis

Chair Myrtis Tabb called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

After review of the minutes of the December, 2022 meeting, Betsy Abraham made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mary Anna Davis seconded the motion. The vote of approval was unanimous.

Budget Review

The commission members reviewed the monthly budget report.

Old Business

1. Keep Cleveland Beautiful distributed thousands of bulbs from Keep Mississippi Beautiful to over eighty people.
2. The Beautification Commission is still searching for a new member to fill the unexpired term of Helen Coleman. Betsy Abraham will ask Robert Sanders for possible nominations from his district.
3. The Beautification Commission is planning to plant a tree in memory of Jared Horne, and also place a bench in his memory on the nature trail. Mary Anna Davis would like to plant the tree by February 10, which is Arbor Day. She will work with Tre' Woodard to select the spot for the bench and have the concrete pad poured.

New Business

1. Arbor Day will be held on February 10, 2023. The signed proclamation by the mayor will need to be published in the paper before that date. The commission would also like to publish an article in the newspaper on this year's Arbor Day program.
2. Some of the landscape timbers in the downtown flower beds appear to be rotten. Mary Anna Davis will check to see how many are rotten and need to be replaced.
3. The landscape architect from University of MS had earlier agreed to visit Cleveland and tour our downtown area. There is also another landscape architect who may be available. Myrtis Tabb will speak to both and determine what the cost would be for each one. No date has been set. Betsy Abraham made a motion to invite a landscape architect to visit Cleveland and give the commission ideas and new insights for the downtown area. Mary Anna Davis seconded the motion, and the vote was all in favor.

4. Betsy Abraham will check with Sarah Strain to make certain that she will be able to plant the hanging baskets for the downtown area this spring. The Beautification Commission would like to reduce the number of baskets this year, and also change the plants in the baskets. Betsy will also check to make certain that Sarah ordered the liners for this year's baskets.
5. Myrtis Tabb will be attending the Keep Mississippi Beautiful conference in Birmingham on January 25-27. She will report on the conference at the February meeting.
6. Commission members discussed the Jones Bayou clean up project. In order for the bayou to look better, the bayou will also need to be cleaned south of town. The Jones Bayou Drainage Commission is in charge of any projects to clean the bayou. Mary Anna Davis will check with Ned Mitchell on the status of the project and will try to get a copy of the report from MSU.

Reports

1. Frances Janoush gave a report on Chamber activities. Cade Holder with Team Cleveland will be meeting with artist Lawson King to discuss the proposed mural for downtown. She will submit an application to the Public Arts Committee for approval. The Chamber plans to seek approval from the board to remove the gazebo from the downtown green strip. The Chamber has received a grant from ARPA which will be used to remove the gazebo and replace it with a pocket park. There will be several phases to the project and the Beautification Commission may help with this project.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Cleveland Beautification Commission

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Myrtis Tabb", written over a horizontal line.

Myrtis Tabb, Chair