

Clean and Beautiful Committee
Approved Minutes
January 8, 2015

Committee Members Present:

Brenda Clark
Gandarva Darling
Samadhi Ishaya
Lisa Rene Jones
Karen Lang
Mathew Lovato
David McEwen
Allen Pierce
Misty Smith
Darrick Porter
Jody Rushton-Porter

Absent Members:

Teri-Mae Pierce

Staff Members Present:

Cathie Alberico
Craig Thomas

Lisa Rene Jones brought the January 2015, Clean & Beautiful Meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. The meeting was held in Room 230 at West Valley City Hall. Misty Smith had called to say she had been detained.

Approval of Minutes

Brenda Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of November 13, 2014. Samadhi Ishaya seconded the motion. The motion passed all in favor.

Committee Vacancies

One opening available on the Committee, we received an application this week from a prospective member. Cathie Alberico will turn the application over to Misty so she can contact them. Brian Blank has also expressed some interest again in the Committee, but he has not responded to my return emails. Five members have terms that will expire in June 2015.

Please feel free to invite anyone you may know that lives in WVC to attend our service projects or meetings. Service projects are much more relaxed and less formal than our meetings, which might be a better setting to introduce our Committee to someone new.

Budget Review

Craig Thomas reports that there isn't any new information to report on the budget. We haven't spent any money, so the budget is intact.

Focus Area Updates

Holiday Decorations

The day we put up decorations in December was windy and rainy. We did not work outside. We did not hang ornaments on the front porch tree. Several members commented that the tree looked nice, anyway. At this time the decorations have

been taken down. The wreaths are down and are in the foyer, until they can be stored for the year. The wreaths still look like they are in good condition. The bells and a few of the ornaments are faded; we may need to touch them up next year.

Awards and Yard Judging Program

The committee will need to start planning and discussing the Yard Judging program at our next meeting. We need to resolve the issue of care for 1,000 daylilies. Cathie will contact the grower about options and their flexibility.

Misty arrived at 5:45 p.m. Lisa quickly brought her up to date.

Service Projects

No upcoming projects are scheduled

This past year we set aside the third Saturday morning of each month for projects. We could get started when the weather improves, usually by March. Cathie passed out a schedule of activities that are set for 2015. Lisa inquired if another date should be considered, if a Doodle poll of the members was necessary. A discussion about setting the date for service projects ensued. Cathie asked the members if they liked having a set day of the month for projects. Lisa endorsed the third Saturday of the month. Matt Lovato's schedule varies. Brenda usually works most Saturdays. Matt inquired about Doodle Polls and how they work, if we could pick a few Saturdays for service projects to decide what works best for the Committee. Misty explained that an invitation can be sent out with the dates you are interested in, everyone votes on the date that works best for them, then the most popular date can be used. More than one date be offered in the poll. As you log into the poll you will see what the others have chosen, and you would click on the dates you're available for. Again the most popular dates could be used.

In the discussion, having a set date made it easier for most members to plan their activities. Misty felt that confusion would generate if we don't have a set date like the set date we have for our meetings. The consensus was to leave our service projects on the third Saturday of the month.

Project Ideas 2015

Please make suggestion of any ideas you may have.

Triangle at CPB, Community Preservation Building (Code Enforcement, Animal Shelter and Housing located in this building)

Need answer from Parks about laying rock in triangle west of building. Karen Lang has contacted them and will try again.

Boy Scout Monument / Flag Pole – repair/update/remove

Currently is an eyesore. Craig added the City is responsible for the site. An Eagle Scout installed it many years ago; it was to be a small-scale amphitheater to be used by the Scouts. This could possibly be an opportunity for another Eagle Scout or Boy Scout Troop to beautify. It has been vandalized, bricks have been removed, the flagpole has rusted all the way through. It has turned into a large ashtray or

trashcan. The park has been reworked; the hill behind it was added. The Scouts owned it and deeded it over to the City. It will take quite a bit of money to restore the monument. Again we will have to touch base with the Parks Department.

4100 South and 4100 West, private property

Need to talk to the legal department for okay to work there. Would also have to seek the property owner's permission. This would be easy to complete and we could do it soon.

3100 South and Bangerter Hwy (American Prep. School, UDOT)

Lisa has been unable to connect with UDOT, she will try again. She has a new job that doesn't let her use her phone or computer for personal use. She is willing to keep trying. Perhaps we could partner with American Prep School to clean up and decorate with some drought resistant plants and decorative gravel. There is an exposure risk working on the corner of Bangerter Highway, thus the need for UDOT permission to Adopt-A-Highway and added safety. Lisa would like to see all the intersections of Bangerter Highway improved in some way. The highway is a gateway through the City and the intersections should reflect that. Some intersections would be too cumbersome and the scope of the work needed is beyond the Committee to take on.

Samadhi asked about the **Community Gardens**. She had heard that Salt Lake County has funds for Community Gardens. She would be interested in helping to create a WVC Community Garden. There is a garden in Hillside Park, 3275 S 3200 W., it is a Salt Lake County Park. The garden is being rebuilt on the north side of the tennis courts. We have explored community gardens, Cathie has a binder compiled by a former member that contains information on gardens. There are a few gardens scattered throughout the City. It is an on going continuing undertaking. They are very time intensive. Samadhi is welcome to borrow the binder. We did provide funds to help start up a garden in a mobile home park. It was successful for a few years. They require an annual influx of funds and support. Allen Pierce offered information that the LDS Church has several; there is a large one by Merry Lane, (5275-5385 W at 3325 – 3500 S). Many participate in Share the Harvest, and they offer classes; non-members are welcome to use the gardens. Things like agreements, maintenance, paying for water need to be considered. Lisa suggested joining a local garden to get a feel for the organization that is involved.

Misty reminded everyone that if you think of additional service projects feel free to email Cathie, it will be placed on the agenda for discussion. We also have forms available at every meeting for any ideas of suggestions that can also be completed and given to Cathie.

Community Outreach Tools

The City has a new website, everyone should explore it. <http://www.wvc-ut.gov>. The Clean and Beautiful page is found in the drop down menu under Government, City Boards and Commissions –

<http://www.wvc-ut.gov/953/Clean-Beautiful-Committee>

Misty attended a meeting in Sandy with her husband and discussed our Committee with Sandy City officials, and what we do in the community. They were very impressed with what we undertake as a volunteer committee. There is likely to be some follow up conversations because they want to start a committee similar to ours in Sandy. Craig says Sandy can't do it. They have invited Misty to a planning meeting to talk with them about how we tackle projects and so on. Word is getting out about our Committee, they had heard about us with out Misty bringing it up. They have seen the yard award signs and the street banners as well. We are getting some recognition even if it is not our Committee; the City itself is getting some recognition.

Cathie made a request for **Yard Clippings**, a sign up sheet was circulated. The Clippings will be used in the City newsletter if there is space available. We will also include them on the website. The due date would be one week before the beginning of the next month. The newsletter is usually published on the first day of the month. Write a few paragraphs about what you are passionate about. We can't guarantee that it will be in the newsletter, we will definitely get it on the website. Short and concise is good, we can edit for you.

Craig has completed a handout about the Committee that Allen had recommended. It will be printed and ordered this month. It will be used at events, for recruitment purposes and so on.

Street Banners

Craig said the Committee needs to figure out how to spend money, where to place the banners and if the same design should be used. We have additional funds available, thanks to the City Council and the City Manager. As a committee: do we feel like we want to order more of the same banners and expand to more streets? Or is it more important to get seasonal banners? Jody Rushton-Porter suggested expanding to more streets; sometime in the future consider other design options. Craig added City Code requires any new development on major arterial streets to include street poles and lights. The next biggest section to be completed is 5600 West between the trucking companies and 3100 South. There is another section on 3300 South coming into the City from the east, between the Jordan River and Redwood Road. Redwood Road is hit and miss, so he would not recommend that area at this time. Jody questioned about 2700 South? The City owns the poles; currently there are no banner arms on them. For some reason the west side or City Hall side of 2700 South did not get improved with the same street light poles. Jody suggested 5600 West because of all the growth going on. It is a major artery into the City and would be visible.

Misty made a motion to place the next batch of street banners on 5600 West and to use the same design as the original set of banners. Lisa seconded the motion, the motion passed all in favor.

Matt commented that there are many places in the City that could use banners. In the future he would like the committee to consider other areas as well. Possibilities to consider are: the Cultural Center Area on 3300 South, City venue parking lots and the Maverick Center area and Fairbourne Station. Craig added placing the banners up in one area at a time has a better visual impact. We currently don't have enough money to place banners on all the poles that have arms.

Craig has spoken to the manufacturer of the banners. He is working on his budget; he thinks he will be able to offer us the same pricing. We also had Alpha Graphics price them out. They came back twice the amount that we had paid. Alpha Graphics told Craig that our vendor is losing money. There is no way any vendor could make money on the product. Our vendor is willing to do them, so he is making money.

Our banners have held up magnificently. When they came down there wasn't a single tear, they were in good shape. The banners ran about \$60.00 per pair, under \$100.00 per pole. We covered about 80 poles on 3500 South, for \$5,000.00. We will have to count the poles on 5600 West, or check with Erik Brondum in Engineering. Karen Lang suggested the banners could be spread out, especially any extra ones. We spent an additional \$900 to complete 3500 South and City Hall parking lot.

One of Misty's suggestions that she has made in the past was to use any dollars left at the end of the budget year be spent on banners. She suggested using any unused money for the Cultural Center parking lot. Progress is definitely being made; it's a good place to be in, having to make these decisions. Where do we want to grow and expand is always a nice decision making process as opposed to where do we cut the budget.

Karen Lang placed a call to Jason Erekson in the Parks Department during the meeting. He approved the project for the Triangle at the CP Building. He is good with digging it up, and laying gravel down. He is going to try to contact the Boy Scouts to find out what their intentions are with the flagpole monument. He reported that it was built sometime ago to retire flags. He will see if they want to fix it and maintain it. Jason will want to know if the committee wants to fix the monument, and or he may be in favor of leveling it. He is going to come to next month's meeting. Cathie will send him an invitation to attend the meeting. We should also ask him for Kelly Simper's help in moving the rock.

Committee discussion on flagpole monument: It is a nice amenity, a place to retire flags, if the Scouts are aware of it. Craig had two neighborhood groups that retired flags at National Night Out. The ceremonies were well received by the neighborhoods; they don't have the opportunity to see that first hand. Misty has been approached at WestFest with questions about retiring flags. Karen asked if the Committee has the money to fix the monument? Probably not. If the Scouts would take over ownership of the monument, that would be wonderful. Let it be their project. It is going to take considerable work to restore; they will need talented workers to do it. We don't know what the costs of such a project would be. There definitely needs to be some skilled labor involved in the restoration.

Karen suggested that the Committee consider what role we would play in the restoration or removal of the fire pit/flagpole/monument. This topic will be the

reason for Jason's attendance at our meeting, and who will pay for what. It may be beyond the scope of the committee. Misty volunteered to speak with her husband about estimates to repair the masonry. Karen suggested volunteers to donate their time and skills such as a brick mason.

Matt Lovato voiced concern about the condition of many of the benches in our parks. Repair and restoration could possibly be a project for the Committee to consider, or an Eagle Scout or troop project.

Project Leads

Cathie asked Committee members that have a keen interest in any of the suggested project ideas to volunteer to take the lead of that project. Research projects, count the number of poles needed of 5600 West, contact the homeowner on 4100 South, we need members to coordinate each of these projects. Lisa will take the lead on the Community Preservation Building, Jody volunteered to count poles. Craig and Cathie need assistance on the projects the Committee wants to accomplish.

Karen saw wreaths hung on banner poles during Christmas in another community. A green wreath with a red bow was zipped tied to the banner arm. It looks nice. Craig added that Taiwan Imports is heavily involved with the Sister City; perhaps we could approach them for wreaths. They had a huge after Christmas clearance sale. We are unsure if the poles are wired for electricity. It is an idea to consider. Perhaps as banners are taken down a wreath could be hung.

Unfortunately Brenda announced she would be leaving the Committee at the end of her term. We will miss her.

Misty thanked everyone for attending; we had an excellent turn out. With nothing more to discuss we will adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.