

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
City of Leon Valley

17 December 2014

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting

1. **OPENING OF MEETING:** Mayor Chris Riley opened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. on 17 December 2014.
2. **ATTENDANCE:**  
Members: Lupe Carpio, Donna Charles, Carolyn Diaz, Shirley Jonas, Lyn Joseph, Jerry Perales, Chris Riley
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of last meeting, 19 November 2014, were approved as written.
4. **UPDATE ON KEEP TEXAS BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATION:**
  - Ms. Joseph was unable to attend the webinar on 16 December 2014; therefore she has been scheduled for 8 January 2015. During this online presentation, she hopes to obtain additional information about becoming an affiliate, community programs and awards.
  - A presentation will be made to the members at the next meeting. At that time, a decision will be made as to whether Leon Valley will benefit from membership.
  - Since the members like the slogan, "Keep Leon Valley Beautiful", it may require membership to use this slogan. Membership is \$100.00.
5. **UPDATE ON OBTAINING PLANTERS AND PLANTS:**
  - Mayor Riley discussed obtaining 30 concrete the pots with Lincoln St. George, City of San Antonio, who had indicated that the pots are no longer used and that the city would be willing to dispose of them. He has sent the donation request to someone who has the authority to approve and will get back with the Mayor.
  - If the concrete pots are donated, the City of Leon Valley would be required to pickup and store them until they are painted for use. A discussion took place as to how best to paint the pots for aesthetic appeal. Members shared photos of planters placed around businesses and in other small cities in order to provide ideas to the members. The decision regarding paint will be made once the pots are obtained.
  - Members shared ideas and discussed possible sources of funding to obtain plantings for the pots, assisting businesses in planting and maintaining plants either for pots or for ground planting, and other upkeep to beautify areas.
  - The Mayor informed the members that the Economic Development Department under the direction of Claudia Mora has funds for businesses to improve facades.

There may be a minimum limit of \$10,000 to spend in order for the Economic Development to reimburse these businesses.

- Mr. Perales offered to obtain information and report at the next meeting regarding the reimbursement procedures from the Economic Development Department and obtain a list of the strip mall managers who have already been contacted by the Department regarding improvements.
- Ms. Joseph has spoken with Bob Haskins, Manager of the strip mall housing several stores including Hobby Lobby. He has little space for plantings but is interested in ideas for improvement. He requests visual ideas in writing.

6. UPDATE ON TXDOT INVOLVEMENT:

- The Mayor has invited a representative from TXDOT to attend the 21 January 2015 meeting so that the members may ask questions regarding what support and what obstacles may be expected when working to beautify the roadways along Bandera and Grissom.
- Some discussion took place regarding the plan for TXDOT to turn Bandera into a Super Street, the concept being that from the side streets there would be no left turns onto Bandera. The first phase of this project is scheduled to begin in 2022. It is hopeful that alternative plans may be more attractive and workable, as the City of Leon Valley is not in favor of the Super Street. Justin Rodrigues, State Representative, indicated that there will be many public meetings to discuss the issue.

7. UPDATE ON MASTER GARDENER'S AND NURSERIES ADVICE AND SUPPORT:

- Ms. Charles obtained an application to request a speaker for the 18 February 2015 meeting. She will assure that it is sent this week.
- Ms. Charles offered to speak with Rainbow Gardens to determine if they are willing to assist with Leon Valley's beautification process. The ideas were that they could provide advice and perhaps plantings at a reduced cost if buying in quantity.

8. MEMBERS' BEAUTIFICATION IDEAS (WHERE TO BEGIN):

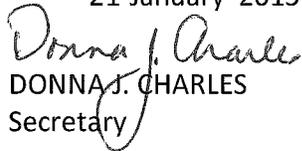
- After each member provided input, the general ideas were: target strip mall businesses and individual businesses and restaurants, seek funding to support businesses in improving with plantings, submit articles to the Lion's Roar regarding businesses which have already begun improving with paint and plantings, reinstate the City of Leon Valley's Beautification Awards, do what is necessary to use the slogan "Keep Leon Valley Beautiful", and do what can be done such as placing wreaths at the monuments during the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.

9. MEMBERSHIP EMAILS:

Lupe Carpio [dcarpio65@att.net](mailto:dcarpio65@att.net)

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Carolyn Diaz	<a href="mailto:CJD44@hotmail.com"><u>CJD44@hotmail.com</u></a>
Shirley Jonas	<a href="mailto:shirleyjonas1961@yahoo.com"><u>shirleyjonas1961@yahoo.com</u></a>
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Chris Riley	<a href="mailto:mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov"><u>mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov</u></a>

10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 21 January 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

  
DONNA J. CHARLES  
Secretary