

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
City of Leon Valley

25 August 2015

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting

1. OPENING OF MEETING: The Chair, Mayor Riley, opened the meeting at 5:10 p.m. on 25 August 2015 at the Leon Valley Fire Department. She introduced new member, Carolina Macias.
2. ATTENDANCE:
Members Present: Donna Charles, Lupe Carpio, Carolyn Diaz, Belinda Ealy, Carrie Macias, Jerry Perales, Chris Riley
Members Absent: Shirley Jonas, Lyn Joseph
Guests Present: None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of last meeting, 15 July 2015, were approved with corrections.
4. FOLLOWUP ON PREVIOUS AGENDA TOPICS:
 - The Mayor reported that the City Attorney finalized and made ready the agreement between the City and prospective businesses willing to take and maintain potted planters provided and owned by Leon Valley.
 - After a cost comparison of flower pots available through the co-operative source (ranging from \$300-\$400) and local businesses (ranging from \$59.99 to \$99.99) the members agreed to purchase 35 terra cotta pots from At Home for \$59.99 each and allocate the remainder of this year's budget to purchasing Beautification Award signs for businesses and private property owners. The members gave final approval to fund additional pot purchases, if the signs could not be ready to order by the ordering deadline. It was also agreed to postpone the purchase of signs, if necessary, plants, and soil until the next budget cycle.
 - Several businesses have been contacted regarding accepting the planted flower pots. The positive responses are Sunset Plaza and Leon Valley Café. The Mayor spoke with the Manager of Bandera Heights Strip Mall about planted pots. A follow-up is needed. In addition Ms. Carpio, Ms. Diaz, Ms. Macias, and Ms. Charles will make an effort to contact additional businesses along Bandera and Grissom. Mrs. Ealy will contact businesses along Evers. Reports will be made at the next meeting.
 - As soon as a planting and delivery date is set, volunteers will be sought to assist in this effort. Mrs. Ealy has been asked to seek the help of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints volunteers.
 - The tentative date depends upon the availability of plants which will likely survive the winter. Ms. Charles has gathered information from Rainbow Gardens and the Garden Center regarding when to plant, what to plant, and what will survive the winter. The information from the experts is that several of the more hardy plants may not survive so well in pots and may not come back in the spring. Mrs. Ealy offered to gather additional information about winter thriving plants that she has

observed at other places. The members discussed types of plants and recommended that the plants be perennials, hearty, and winter survivors.

- The bulk pick up printed material was revised, mailed, and placed in the Lion's Roar. The Mayor offered to assure that the Fall Pickup information is placed on the City's website, stressing that the specifications listed on the mail out will be honored. The disposal of all that is above and beyond what is listed will be the property owner's disposal responsibility.
- The City Ordinance pertaining to property upkeep is in the process of being revised.

5. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- The Mayor shared information pertaining to Live Oak's Community Wide Cleanup. The members agreed that this type of activity would be a pride-booster for Leon Valley. The Mayor offered to invite the person supplying the Live Oak information to speak at the Beautification Meeting in either September or October.
- Mrs. Ealy suggested that an offer be made to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion to adopt Evers Road and pick up litter regularly.
- A discussion took place regarding an Adopt a Monument Program. The contractor only mows but does not remove weeds or litter; therefore it would be desirable to seek individuals or groups who would adopt the monuments to perform the weed pulling and litter removal tasks.
- The members discussed the numerous pay day loan and auto care businesses within the City limits. There is an attempt to reduce the number as one business closes.
- Ms. Diaz shared an article entitled San Antonio Living in the *San Antonio Express News* dated 16 August 2015. Several small cities and downtown San Antonio were highlighted with general information and then EAT, SHOP, and PLAY for each. Leon Valley was not listed. Ms. Charles offered to contact the Advertising and Marketing Department of the paper to determine how these cities were picked, if future articles of this type are planned, and what Leon Valley needs to do to be included.
- The Mayor discussed future plans for the Onion House, which would be an area of interest for many.

6. MEMBERS' EMAILS:

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| Lupe Carpio | dcarpio65@att.net |
| Donna Charles | donna.charles@sbcglobal.net |
| Carolyn Diaz | CJD44@hotmail.com |
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| Jerry Perales | j.perales@leonvalleytexas.gov |
| Chris Riley | mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov |

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. **The next meeting is scheduled for 16 September 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at the Leon Valley Fire Department.**


DONNA J. CHARLES
Secretary