

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
City of Leon Valley

17 February 2016

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting

1. **OPENING OF MEETING:** The Chair, Mayor Riley, opened the meeting at 5:38 p.m. on 17 February 2016 at the Leon Valley Fire Department.
2. **ATTENDANCE:**
Members Present: Donna Charles, Lupe Carpio, Carolyn Diaz, Belinda Ealy, Jean Johnson, Shirley Jonas, Jerry Perales, Chris Riley
Members Absent: Carrie Macias, Lyn Joseph
Guests: Monica Alcocer, Council Member
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the last meeting, 20 January 2016, were approved as distributed by email.
4. **FOLLOWUP AGENDA ITEMS:**
 - **Live Oak's Clean Up/Fix Up Program**---Jordan Matney, Assistant City Manager, City of Live Oak, presented the Clean Up/Fix Up Program to City Council on 16 February 2016. The Leon Valley City Manager, Kelly Kuentler, selected Dave Dimaline, Assistant Director, Public Works Department, to chair an event for Leon Valley during the month of May. Due to the short length of time to plan and the many activities already scheduled for May, the members suggested that the City consider a city-wide litter abatement activity. Block Chairmen may be selected from interested citizens who attend City Council Meetings and they could be encouraged to secure volunteers from their respective neighborhoods. In addition, students from Taft Communications High School and John Marshall High School could be offered an opportunity to obtain community service hours by participating in this event. Also, residential properties needing yard cleanup and hedge trimming could be targeted with owners consent. A more complete event to include home painting could be planned in the Fall.
 - **Leon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce Presentation**---Ms. Charles is tentatively on the Leon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce's speaking schedule for either March or April to present the Leon Valley Beautification Program. Once scheduled, she will notify the members who may want to attend.
 - **Town Hall Meeting**---Six members of the Beautification Committee were in attendance at the Town Hall Meeting held on Saturday, 23 January 2016. Although a full report has not been submitted by the Moderator, the verbal feedback was very good. She was complimentary about the level of cooperation among the participants and the respect shown to her, other presenters and each other.

After the presentation by the Chief of Police, Randall Wallace, the participants suggested that a police car be parked at various trouble spots in the City during peak times to deter speeding, running red lights, and not stopping for cross walks. The Police Department has acted on this suggestion and is already receiving positive results.

The members discussed trouble street crossing areas and suggested that some type of sensor be considered which would alert drivers when someone is in the crosswalk. They are not visible to drivers in all lanes of traffic.

After the presentation regarding the possible closing of the Forest Oaks Swimming Pool and Tennis Courts and learning that the participants want to save this area, the City took action by forming a Committee to completely review the situation and make suggestions about the feasibility of the City's assuming management of this area. The Committee is made up of representatives from Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Economic Development, Community Development, Beautification Committee, City Staff and six other members. Ms. Diaz will represent the Beautification Committee.

- **TX-DOT Stakeholders Meeting**---Beautification Committee members were present at this meeting held on 28 January 2016. Five options regarding the reduction of traffic congestion on Bandera Road were presented. Representatives of TX-DOT and the engineering company explained the various options represented on large maps as participants went from table to table. The price, disturbance to business properties, and aesthetics have a wide range in the five selections. A public meeting will be scheduled at a later date to determine the citizens' preference.

5. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- The procedures for reviewing properties and assisting the judges to select winners for the Beautification Awards in May were discussed. The members were provided maps of the neighborhoods in which they will preview for the purpose of listing addresses that may be considered for the awards before the March meeting. At the March meeting, they will return the maps and the completed criteria forms which will be passed on to Ms. Johnson. She will then share these with the Gardening Volunteers of South Texas who have agreed to judge this year. From these forms, they will be better able to determine how many volunteer judges they will need. It was suggested that the members of the Beautification Committee plan to accompany the judges to the neighborhoods in which they previewed because they are not familiar with the City of Leon Valley.
- Members discussed changing the time or date of the meeting to accommodate members with conflicts. It was agreed to keep the third Wednesday but move the time to 5:00 p.m. The Committee will continue to meet at the Fire Department.

6. MEMBERS' EMAILS:

Lupe Carpio	<u>dcarpio65@att.net</u>
Donna Charles	<u>donna.charles@sbcglobal.net</u>
Carolyn Diaz	<u>CJD44@hotmail.com</u>
Belinda Ealy	<u>msg8111@msn.com</u>
Jean Johnson	<u>satjean1@earthlink.net</u>
Shirley Jonas	<u>shirleyjonas1961@yahoo.com</u>
Lyn Joseph	<u>lynjille@aol.com</u>
Carolina Macias	<u>macias.carrie@icloud.com</u>
Jerry Perales	<u>j.perales@leonvalleytexas.gov</u>
Chris Riley	<u>mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov</u>

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 16 March 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leon Valley Fire Department.

DONNA J. CHARLES

Secretary

