

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
City of Leon Valley

20 April 2016

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting

1. **OPENING OF MEETING:** The Co-Chair, Lyn Joseph, opened the meeting at 5:09 p.m. on 20 April 2016 at the Leon Valley Fire Department.
2. **ATTENDANCE:**
Members Present: Donna Charles, Lupe Carpio, Belinda Ealy, Jean Johnson, Shirley Jonas, Lyn Joseph, Carrie Macias, Jerry Perales
Members Absent: Carolyn Diaz, Chris Riley
Guests: None
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the last meeting, 16 March 2016, were approved as distributed by email.
4. **REVIEW OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN:** The members discussed the Beautification Committee's role in this plan. In supporting beautification efforts, the members agreed with the Community Development Office's role in communicating the need for landscaping of new business properties and the role of the Code Compliance Office in continuing to monitor property maintenance compliance with new and established businesses. The members agreed that, if possible, it would be helpful to stress the importance of ongoing property maintenance in the plan.
5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - **Update on Leon Valley's Neighborhood Renewal Program Plans-**A flyer which provided the date, 21 May 2016, and the time, 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m., was distributed. In addition, tasks to be completed were listed as well as the contact information, if interested in volunteering. The Chair for this event is David Dimaline, Public Works Department, who may be reached by either phone contact, 210-681-1232, ext. 201, or by email at d.dimaline@leonvalleytexas.gov. Members were encouraged to become involved.
 - **Update on Beautification Awards Meeting with Judges-**Members of the Committee met with Anne Schiller, Volunteer Coordinator, Gardening Volunteers of South Texas, to explain what had been accomplished thus far in order to ease the judging process. The list of suggested residential properties, business properties, and judging criteria forms were provided to Ms. Schiller. After some discussion, she asked to be able to review these lists and forms, meet with her volunteers, and then get back with Ms. Charles. The members assured her that they will assist by driving the judges to the

neighborhoods and businesses in order to reduce the strain of traveling in areas in which they are not familiar. The Committee asked that the judging be completed in the month of May.

- **Update on Forest Oaks Pool Committee**-Two members of the Beautification Committee, Carolyn Diaz and Lyn Joseph, serve on this Committee. Ms. Joseph reported that there is ongoing discussion as to whether the City will take over the management of the Forest Oaks Pool and, if so, change the operation of the pools, Forest Oaks and Leon Valley, to be more in line with one another, change pool programs, and charge fees. A decision will be made prior to next year's opening.
- **Update on Chamber of Commerce Meeting**-Ms. Charles addressed the Chamber of Commerce members on 23 March 2016 at Hacienda Vallarta. The primary message was to inform the business owners of the goals and objectives of the Beautification Committee and to ask for their assistance in helping to beautify Leon Valley. She emphasized that residential property owners look to businesses to set the standard.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Potted Plant Project 2016:** The members were concerned that some of the potted plants distributed last year were now missing. Ms. Charles stated that she would drive to those areas and check with the person who signed the agreement. If the pots are being taken, it may be necessary to change the plan. This issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

7. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

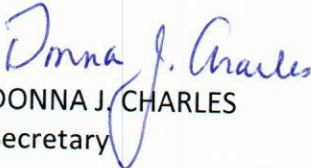
- **Planter box in front of Chamber of Commerce Building**-Ms. Johnson announced that the Forest Oaks Garden Club has adopted this box and is now working to clean and plant it. They asked that the manager of the strip repair the damage to the box but he doesn't want to at this time. He agreed to have it planted. Ms. Johnson stated that they would plant a trailing plant to cover the damage.
- **4th of July Activity**-Ms. Ealy stated that various committees will be involved during the 4th of July Celebration. She informed the members that Waste Management will provide two tents for recyclables. She asked that members of the Beautification Committee serve in this area. Ms. Carpio, Ms. Johnson, and Ms. Jonas offered to help. She also asked that someone represent the Committee in the parade. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- **Adopt a Monument**-A discussion took place as to the need for a group to adopt the Leon Valley Monuments to perform a more thorough cleaning around the plants. The weeds interfere with the intended beautification. Ms. Ealy offered to contact the American Legion about adopting these areas. A report will be given at the next meeting.

8. MEMBERS' EMAILS:

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

9. FAREWELL PARTY: The Committee members hosted a farewell potluck dinner with the assistance of the Fire Department for member Jerry Perales who will be retiring from the City at the end of the month.

10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 May 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leon Valley Fire Department.


DONNA J. CHARLES
Secretary