

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
City of Leon Valley

20 July 2016

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting

1. **OPENING OF MEETING:** The Secretary opened the meeting at 4:17 p.m. on 20 July 2016 at the Leon Valley Fire Department due to the Mayor being delayed.
2. **ATTENDANCE:**
Members Present: Lupe Carpio, Donna Charles, Belinda Ealy, Jean Johnson, Carrie Macias, Chris Riley, Vickie Wallace
Members Absent: Carolyn Diaz, Shirley Jonas, Lyn Joseph
Guests Present: None
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of last meeting, 15 June 2016, were approved as distributed by email. The balance in the budget is \$1,872.88. It must be committed by the end of August.
4. **BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE INPUT TO MASTER PLAN:** The members recommended that items concerning the potted plant project as a means of softening storefronts, neighborhood renewal, beautification awards recognizing businesses and residential property owners who were rated highly for landscaping and maintenance, and a plan to plant a humming bird and bee garden be considered from a beautification standpoint in the Master Plan. This information will be forwarded to the Community Development Department.
5. **FOLLOWUP ON PREVIOUS AGENDA TOPICS:**
 - **Council Presentation of Beautification Awards-**Each property owner, who was recognized at City Council, appeared to be very pleased about the recognition, presentation of a yard sign to display, and an opportunity to personally talk about their landscaping.

Members discussed the possibility of displaying signs or banners advertising that either Leon Valley is a Keep Texas Beautiful Affiliate or reading "Keep Leon Valley Beautiful". Ms. Wallace was placed in charge of determining if such signs or banners could be easily placed somewhere inside or outside City Hall without becoming a distraction.
 - **Potted Plant Project Discussion-**Ms. Charles informed the group that she had made a trip to the businesses which accepted potted plants with the understanding that they would take care of them. Many were in need of care such as pruning, watering, fertilizing. She performed those tasks while there and then informed the business owners that the plants required care. At this point, the members agreed that the budgeted funds for the Beautification Committee may be more wisely spent in some other way. Discussion followed as to improving the area around City Hall with rock, more heat and drought tolerant plants, and perhaps some metal sculptures.

Additionally, the members discussed the need to water and improve areas at the entrances of Forest Way and Forest Bend. The Mayor will determine if these areas are city right of ways and if so, will seek the help of Public Works. There are broken pieces at the top of the monuments and graffiti which needs to be removed.


- **Monument Bunting**-Red, white and blue bunting with stars was placed on all sides of the monuments designating the borders of Leon Valley on Bandera Road. It was attractive. The bunting will be used again for Veterans' Day and Memorial Day next year.
- **July 4th Events**-The activities were well received. There seemed to be a lull between the end of the parade and the beginning of other activities. It was difficult to retain participants as the heat was extreme. However, many returned for the fireworks at dusk. The banner for the Beautification Committee has been stored in the Earthwise Shed; therefore Ms. Charles and Ms. Carpio will deliver the pole for the banner to that shed for storage. Ms. Acuna's number was provided so that she may be notified to open the shed when it is delivered.
- **Rain Garden**-Ms. Ealy discussed the possibility of planting a rain garden in a portion of Raymond Rimkus Park. Interested organizations are the Tree Advisory Committee, the Park Commission, the Perma Culture Society and Leon Valley Public Works Department. The details have not been fully explored as it will not be done until the next planting season this Fall.

6. GENERAL DISCUSSION: The members agreed to distribute the remainder of the seed packets used during the 4th of July Events in various ways such as placing them at City Hall, the Library, and distributing them during Council Meetings.

7. MEMBERS' EMAILS:

Lupe Carpio	dcarpio65@att.net
Donna Charles	donna.charles@sbcglobal.net
Carolyn Diaz	CJD44@hotmail.com
Belinda Ealy	msg8111@msn.com
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Shirley Jonas	shirleyjonas1961@yahoo.com
Lyn Joseph	lynjille@aol.com
Carolina Macias	macias.carrie@icloud.com
Chris Riley	mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov
Vickie Wallace	v.wallace@leonvalleytexas.gov

8. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 21 September 2016 at 4:15 p.m. at the Leon Valley Fire Department. (Note: There will be no meeting in August.)


DONNA J. CHARLES
Secretary