



## MINUTES – BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD

February 25, 2020

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The Beautification Advisory Board of the City of Fort Myers, Florida, met in regular session at Oscar M. Corbin, Jr. City Hall 2200 Second Street, on Tuesday, February 25, at 4:00 p.m. Present were: Margie Willis, Chair, presiding, Committee Members, Mitzi Marckesano, Debbie Hughes, Piper Smith, Pattie Robinson, and Wilmer Carter. Also present were J.B. Schuetz, Parks and Beautification Manager, and Michele Jones, Administrative Assistant. Absent: Committee Member Ronald Bovello.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Willis called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Ms. Willis led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a roll call was taken by Ms. Jones.

### **AGENDA ITEM #1: Minutes of January 28, 2020 Meeting**

A motion was made by Ms. Hughes to approve the minutes with a second by Ms. Marckesano. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **AGENDA ITEM #2: Beautification Awards**

Ms. Robinson and Ms. Willis presented pictures to Board Members that were taken for Wards 1, 2, and 3 for consideration of the Beautification Awards. Mr. Schuetz discussed that in the future to send any pictures to Ms. Jones for they can be distributed to everyone for review before the meetings. Ms. Smith offered to start working on pictures for the next Beautification Award for Ward 4.

Board Members discussed the pictures for Ward 1, and they agreed 3854 Washington Avenue was the best. A motion was made by Ms. Hughes to choose 3854 Washington Avenue as Ward 1 Beautification Award with a second by Piper Smith. The motion was carried unanimously.

Board Members discussed Ward 2 pictures of 2134 Barden Street and 3314 Thomas Street. A motion was made by Ms. Willis to choose 2134 Barden Street as Ward 2 Beautification Award with a second by Ms. Robinson. The motion was carried unanimously.

Board Members discussed Ward 3 and pictures of 2768 St. Charles Place. A motion was made by Ms. Hughes to choose 2768 St. Charles Place as Ward 3 Beautification Award with a second by Ms. Smith. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **AGENDA ITEM #3: Beecher Village Park**

Mr. Schuetz gave an update on Beecher Village Park Kaboom project that is for a \$15,000 grant. Mr. Schuetz said that we are moving forward, and that legal department is currently reviewing the letter of agreement. Mr. Schuetz said that application is due in March and should hear if selected in April or May.

### **AGENDA ITEM #4: Forum Park**

Mr. Schuetz gave an update on Forum Park with an aerial map presentation showing the location of the properties including the property that the City is currently in negotiations on. Mr. Schuetz discussed the possibilities of the different locations with amenities such as: Pickle Ball, multi-sports field, playground with picnic area, fitness area, dog park, and a nature trail. Mr. Schuetz said that once negotiations are done with the property, there will be a Ward 6 meeting with the residents to discuss what the residents would like to see in the Park.



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### **AGENDA ITEM #5: Coronado Park**

Mr. Schuetz said that the plans for Coronado Park are still in review. A concrete pad was just installed that he believes is for a generator for the sewer and electricians will be going over the lighting.

### **AGENDA ITEM #6: Jackson Street Parking Garage**

Mr. Schuetz gave an update on the Jackson Street Parking Garage and said that they found standard Silver Buttonwood and some small Spanish Stoppers. Mr. Schuetz said that they will be planting them after FPL has moved the lines and that he needs to follow up with them to see if they will be grinding the stumps of the trees they removed. Ms. Hughes said that FPL has taken some trees down at the Edison Estates also and that FPL has their contractor grind the stumps. Ms. Hughes said that she will check with FPL on the grinding of the stumps at Jackson when she talks with them.

### **AGENDA ITEM #7: MLK Renovations**

Mr. Schuetz gave an update on the MLK landscaping renovations that were previously approved by the board back in February 2019. Mr. Schuetz discussed the three-dimensional prints from David M. Jones and Associates that were passed out to Board Members. Mr. Schuetz said that it's a \$200,000 project that consists of plant material, mulch, irrigation, and labor that will run from Ortiz to Evans Avenue. Mr. Schuetz said that the project will be partially funded by the CRA and they are wanting to do it in a two-year phase. Board Members discussed the first phase drawing of the MLK-Veronica Shoemaker Boulevard intersection and the 30-foot diameter half circle where a future art piece will go. Mr. Schuetz discussed the other drawings that showed before and after pictures that covered enhancements of the medians on MLK from Evans Avenue to Ortiz Boulevard.

### **AGENDA ITEM #7: Other Business**

Mr. Schuetz discussed the Calvary Gardens entrance project that is on the south side of Michigan Avenue where updates are being done to the walls that have been cracked and falling apart. Mr. Schuetz discussed the drawing that was handed out to Board Members on the low maintenance landscape design with color that was done by Parks staff for the entrance that is north of the Columbarium. Mr. Schuetz said that the Columbarium was recently pressure washed, and landscape and irrigation updated. Mr. Schuetz discussed an older Laurel Oak on the east side that was replaced with four other Oaks because it was rooted underneath the concrete fence on the east side and deteriorating. Ms. Robinson asked about what was being done about the graves and Mr. Schuetz said that there are still issues that need the Council's reinforcement, and the City Clerk is working on setting up a meeting with City Council to discuss the ordinance in late March or first of April.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Willis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Ms. Robinson. Meeting adjourned at 4:55