

**NORTH PORT BEAUTIFICATION AND TREE/SCENIC HIGHWAY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014**

Present: Gail Miller, Chair; Anne Couzens, Vice-Chair; Peggy Bruner; Vicki Bailey; Glen Chizmadia; Staff Liaison Ryan Pieper (City Arborist, Neighborhood Development Services Department); Parks and Recreation Supervisor Dorothy St. Pierre; and Recording Secretary Hale.

Absent: Richard Vogelsang.

---

The North Port Beautification and Tree/Scenic Highway Committee Regular Meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. in Committee/Training Room 244 by Gail Miller, Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Committee.

**C. TREE BENCH MEMORIAL PROJECT REVIEW**

Staff Liaison Ryan Pieper provided a review of the Parks & Recreation and read the Tribute Program requirements into the record.

Discussion ensued: 1) the fee for renewal is still being reviewed; 2) after a concern, clarification was provided that if the tribute was not renewed, the plaque will be removed and forwarded to the individual; 3) it is a memorial to the individual but also a gift to the township; 4) it was suggested to advertise the Tribute Program through the community organizations to generate interest and awareness of the value of the program and to receive feedback; 5) the closest thing North Port has as a memorial park is the Garden of the Five Senses or the memorial bricks that have been placed in front of City Hall; 6) Ms. St. Pierre will take the Committee's suggestions regarding a renewal cost and terms for renewal to the Parks & Recreation Manager for review; and 7) a suggestion was proffered that two families could share a bench.

Pending further review concerning renewal costs, the Committee agreed with the verbiage of item #1. The Committee was mostly interested in the possibility of having the opportunity to designate a memorial in perpetuity and not only the proposed 10-year time frame.

The Committee was in agreement with how to resolve item #2. They were curious how/where they might find the locations that they could sponsor a tree or bench.

The Committee was in agreement with item #3. How will the pavers be installed and will they be located in one location or in a place of their choosing?

The Committee was in agreement with item #4 and Mr. Pieper will coordinate with the Information Technology department to set it up. Will there be a place on the City's website that the community can access the location of a loved one's memorial?

The Committee was in agreement that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board will review item #5. Will the renewal cost be the same price as the initial sponsorship?

It was reported that item #6, the presentation to the Commission regarding the Tribute Program was well received.

*Peggy Bruner moved that the North Port Beautification & Tree/Scenic Highway Committee accept the Tree/Bench Tribute Program with revisions regarding the renewal cost; seconded by Gail Miller. The motion carried unanimously.*

**D. APPROVAL OF 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE**

*Vicki Bailey moved to approve the 2015 North Port Beautification & Tree/Scenic Highway meeting scheduled as presented; seconded by Anne Couzens. The motion carried unanimously.*

**E. LANDSCAPE AWARD**

Mr. Pieper reported meeting with Planning Division Manager Michele Norton who provided some flyers regarding a Façade Improvement Program that that is sponsored by the Neighborhood Development Services. The program has not received a lot of community input or interest and it was recommended to combine that program with the Committee's Landscaping Award.

Discussion ensued regarding: 1) the benefits of packaging the two programs with incentives for beautification of commercial property; 2) the Tree Funds are only to be used for trees and/or education; 3) Committee members were encouraged to take photographs that will be combined into a collage for a new brochure; 4) year 1 will concentrate on producing a tri-fold brochure and create interest in business owners to beautify their storefronts; and 5) year 2 bring back the Landscape Award with a price of a rain barrel to provide irrigation for the plants.

*Gail Miller moved to proceed with the presentation regarding the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and table the Board's Landscaping Award for a year; seconded by Peggy Bruner. The motion carried unanimously.*

A draft tri-fold brochure will be presented next month to review and refine.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

Anne Couzens reported that she will be moving to the Florida east coast soon.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

*Vicki Bailey moved to adjourn the North Port Beautification and Tree/Scenic Highway Committee Regular Meeting; seconded by Glen Chizmadia. The motion carried unanimously.*

The North Port Beautification & Tree/Scenic Highway Committee Regular Meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GAIL MILLER,  
CHAIR

Minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of the  
Beautification Tree/Scenic Highway Committee this 18  
day of Feb, 2015.