



The City Beautiful Commission held its regular meeting Thursday, June 04, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. in the Robinson Auditorium, Room 102. Chair Homeyer called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Homeyer
Kay Tatum
Lee Ann Overall
Ben Jackson
Walter Jennings
Lynn Warren
Betsy Luten

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jennie Cole
Debra Redding
Bill Wiedower

ALSO PRESENT: Dana Carney, Zoning and Subdivision Manager, Department of Planning & Development, City of Little Rock
Christy Marvel, Plans Development Administrator, Department of Planning & Development, City of Little Rock
Beth Blevins Carpenter, Deputy City Attorney, City of Little Rock
Myra Jones, LR Realtors Association
Sharl Hill, Master Gardener, Department of Agriculture, University of Arkansas

LANDSCAPE ORDINANCE UPDATE:

Mr. Dana Carney, Zoning and Subdivision Manager, distributed a synopsis to each CBC member of the proposed landscape ordinance amendments. He stated each issue was discussed at length and city staff felt that they had an amended revision package ready to go to the Board. Commissioner Jennings inquired who had been involved in the discussions. Staff noted that discussions had included the city planning staff, the City Manager, and leaders in the development community. Mr. Carney noted that it would only move forward from this point if the CBC was comfortable with the package of proposed amendments in front of them. Commissioner Warren inquired whether a compromise for the number of plants was attempted. Mr. Carney stated he felt that staff didn't see the point of pushing for a few more plants and that in the vast scope of things the City was gaining much more than what's being given up.

Motion: Commissioner Warren made a motion to accept the recommended changes from the Planning Department.

Second: Commissioner Luten seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jennings noted that he wanted to encourage both the Planning Department and the CBC to continue moving forward with a tree preservation ordinance. Commissioner Jennings noted that CBC can help by being proactive about a tree preservation ordinance, by encouraging the city to begin now reviewing and researching other tree preservation ordinances.

Commissioner Jennings hopes the each CBC will help in applying pressure and help with the work on a draft and in its formation.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY MINUTES:

Motion: Commissioner Warren made a motion to accept the minutes with suggested changes as noted.

Second: Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: UPDATES:

OLD BUSINESS:

Landscape Awards(Ben)- no report. Staff noted two (2) nominations had been turned in thus far.

Eye of the Beholder (Kay) - Commissioner Tatum noted there were zero new nominations for the month.

Future Projects

City Hall Rear Entry Garden –Commissioner Warren noted the water was still off on the garden and thus the irrigation may too, be turned off. Chair Homeyer noted that he'd check on its status. Commissioner Warren noted the price for the plaque was \$307.15 for the 9 X 12 size, she'd continue to work on a ribbon cutting date, and will contact City Hall about the installation of the plaque on one of the rocks in the garden. The CBC may want to add some annuals at a later date closer to the ribbon cutting.

I-630 Trees-no report.

PR-Website(Lynn)- Commissioner Warren noted she had updated the site; put up the agenda, final minutes, final by-laws, and updated contact list.

Commissioner Tatum contacted Fletcher Library about an exhibit. The exhibit should be displayed at Fletcher in July and at Terry Library in August. Commissioner Warren noted that she'd get with Parks and Recreation regarding some archives for the exhibit.

KLRB(Walter)- Commissioner Jennings reported that progress had been made on the very first median project, located at 2nd Street and Cumberland, per Heifer International. A press event is set for June the 19th on the project and at Heifer International on July the 5th. The second area, near UALR, is having some funding issues; therefore, is on hold at this time.

Commissioner Jennings noted also of interest at KLRB is recycling issues of the private vendors. Currently, picking up recyclable refuse isn't included in the contract with the City of Little Rock. It was mentioned the City maybe could use some public support to include in the RFP(request for proposals) that recycling must be a line item included. Commissioner Jennings requests the

CBC think about what we as a Commission can do to help and recommends it be denoted on the CBC agenda next month. Commissioner Warren noted that schools would certainly be interested in recycling options and suggested sending a letter from the CBC to the City Manager, Bruce Moore.

Motion: Commissioner Warren made a motion for the CBC to write a letter to the City Manager in support of the recommended requirement of a recycling component in the next waste management contract.

Second: Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion: It was discussed that the content of the letter may include requirements in the RFP, requiring the option(s) for recycling for schools, commercial, residential, and multi-family sites. Chair Homeyer agreed to draft the letter.

Commissioner Jennings noted that the KLRB Commission has had a website donated and is in the process of acquiring a physical location at 1423 S. Main Street, in downtown Little Rock. This site will be staffed at all times and include a landline telephone. Staffing will be on a voluntarily basis. Green host is the company hosting the website for KLRB. August 8th is the date for the annual litter survey for KLRB. It will require about four (4) hours of a volunteers time, CBC members participation is appreciated. The Chair of KLRB, is Nash Abrams. Chair Homeyer ask the CBC if they would like to pursue sending out letters to various companies about picking up their street adjacent to their properties. Commissioner Jennings noted that upon completion of the litter index, KLRB intends on approaching companies in just such a manner. Commissioner Jennings noted that when areas fall below a level 3 or 4 then they ask the companies to participate.

Adopt-A-Street- Chair Homeyer noted the pick up date has changed to June 27th.

Garden Show 2009-no report.

Information/Communication-Chair Homeyer noted that he was still composing the letter to the Arkansas Highway Department and would also work on a letter to the Mayor; presenting both at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Warren inquired about an ordinance in place that would require persons involved in a motor vehicle accident to clean-up all debris afterwards. It was noted that other cities have such an ordinance it seems. Ms. Beth Carpenter, Deputy City Attorney, noted that she is unsure but would find out and report back at the next months CBC meeting.

By Law Adoption

It was noted the By Law Signing was May the 7th, 2009. Original copy given to staff.

Motion: Commissioner Tatum made a motion to adjourn.

Second: Commissioner Warren seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment: 12:41 p.m.