Parks and Parkways Commission
May 4, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Karin Crosby and the secretary called the roll.

Present: Karin Crosby, Scott Discon, Anne Marie Fargason, Lee Frederick, Dodie Marshall, Nancy Clark

Absent: Robert Santopadre

Also Present: Louisette Scott, Planning Director and Mayor Donald Villere and Maggie Gleason, Landscape Inspector

Ms. Fargason moved to adopt the minutes of April 6, 2015, seconded by Ms. Crosby and was unanimously approved.

Caladium Bulb Sale Follow-Up

Ms. Spranley reported there was ½ box of Red Flash left, and the board had sold out the Carolyn Wharton and Aaron bulbs. It was decided to order two boxes Aaron and one box of the Carolyn Wharton to accommodate the additional requests from the citizens. Whatever bulbs were remaining would be planted around the City including in front of the sign on Monroe Street. The board requested to looks into a comparison of the prices of the #1 and jumbo bulbs.

Eagle Scout Project

Ms. Frederick said she was not contacted by the Eagle Scout or someone from City Hall. She had spoken with Chris Lange and he had two benches for installation. She said she had a couple of live oak trees to be planted in the median. Ms. Spranley would ask Ms. Peachey for the name and telephone number. Le

Highway 22 Expansion, Causeway westbound

Mayor Villere said he had heard that DOTD may have pushed the bidding date to November, 2016.

Pottery Hill bollards

Ms. Gleason said there was an old plan to install bollards. Ms. Scott said the City was told once that area was signed as an archeological site people would start digging in the area. The board suggested installing a sign that only noted the tree. Ms. Scott suggested the installation of bollards with a rope. Mayor Villere said need there was a need for specifications. Ms. Crosby suggested installing bollards similar to the wildflower area. It was confirmed that the tree was registered with the Live Oak Society. Ms. Clark suggested having Dr. Guidry give a date of how old the tree was and including on the sign that it was a member of the Live Oak Society.

Malcolm Shuman had previously given a talk and Ms. Crosby suggested having him speak again. Ms. Scott suggested having the Historic Association organize it and Ms. Crosby said she would contact Adele Foster.

KMB Landscape Plan

Ms. Crosby asked Mayor Villere if Keep Mandeville Beautiful would be doing a planting by Bayou Castine and by entrance sign on the west side of town. Mayor Villere

said they wanted to do mulching during the spring clean-up, but it was a rainy weekend and that did not happen.

Educational Forum on May 30tth

It was discussed that the boar would send out information to everyone they knew, a press release would be sent to all of the newspapers, it would be included in the Mayor's e-briefs, and located on the Causeway signs.

Open the Agenda

Ms. Crosby moved to open the agenda for the election of officers, seconded by Mr. Discon and was unanimously approved.

Ms. Crosby asked for nominations of anyone interested in being elected as chair person. Ms. Frederick nominated Ms. Crosby as Chairwoman, seconded by Ms. Clark and was unanimously approved. Ms. Marshall nominated Mr. Discon as Vice Chairman, seconded by Ms. Clark and was unanimously approved.

Discussion

Ms. Crosby asked if the flowerbeds by the Golden Glen signs was that part of the maintenance plan, and Ms. Gleason answered that it was not. Ms. Crosby had thought the homeowners would help with the maintenance. Ms. Gleason said Ms. Radosta would pick up litter. Somone had cut the grass around the edges, but there were weeds in the bushes.

Ms. Discon asked about the rose garden by the fountain, but more landscape was needed in that area. The board decided to plant caladium bulbs in that area also. All board volunteers would meet at City Hall on Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Clark stated she had spoken with Asst. Chief Ron Ruple about the Mother's Day House tour map. She said the sign and garden in front of the police station looked terrible. It needed soil and bushes removed. Ms. Crosby asked if there was money in someone's budget. Ms. Gleason said no one took care of it and there was no irrigation. Ms. Crosby suggested creating a rock garden or cactus that was low maintenance. Ms. Clark said it would be nice to have a shade tree planted there. The board asked to find out if Chief Richard would be willing to participate in upgrading and maintaining the garden in his budget.

There was a discussion that Golden Glen, Heavens Drive and the rose garden on the lakefront were not under contract with Alternative Services. The board requested considering putting these locations under contract.

Ms. Clark said she and Ms. Scott had walked the lakefront, and had decided it made sense to take all litter containers close to the street and away from the path to prevent visual clutter. Ms. Scott said there were reasonable spaces for the relocation. It was also suggested to plant a bush to screen the street side of the garbage cans. Planting suggestions were lantana, sweet olive was another suggestion, and Russian olive. There were other suggestions to place the cans on gravel, but Mayor Villere said cans were screwed down and it would be muddy and not attractive. Ms. Clark suggested a series of stepping stones and the water could drain into the soil. Ms. Crosby suggested with the gravel in between the stepping stones. It was recommended

to cycle the stones from Girod Street to under the garbage cans. Ms. Gleason asked Public Works to stockpile them at Madison Street.

Ms. Scott presented the creation of a Short Term Work Program similar to the one that the Planning Commission reviewed annually. She suggested it be a three year program. Ms. Scott would email draft of idea and asked the board to fill in goals and to discuss priorities. She asked when the board members reviewed and commented to hit "reply all" so all board members could see the information. Ms. Crosby asked if ongoing projects would be included and it was answered yes. Dr. Guidry had prepared a Master Tree Plan in 2001 that should be updated. Ms. Clark suggested a certified butterfly garden and plantings in the public spaces. Ms. Frederick said to expand the plantings to include native milkweed seeds and germinate them. Ms. Scott said the purpose was to establish those goals, and the Ag Center could make a presentation on their neighborhood program. She also suggested awarding commercial landscaping.

Mr. Discon asked what flower had been planted down Highway 190, and it was answered to be red clover. The board said they thought the wildflower garden was looking good. The live oak trees would be replaced the week of the meeting.

Ms. Crosby asked for a list of stockpiled plants and material at Madison Street. Ms. Gleason said there was mulch from Cleco, and butterfly plants for Keep Mandeville Beautiful that was to be planted for the cleanup. It was decided to plant some of the butterfly plants at City Hall, caladium bulbs at the sign in front of City Hall, on Monroe Street and by the rose garden.

Mr. Discon asked about the status of the Cooperate Endeavor Agreement for Highway 190. Mayor Villere said Mr. Deano was finalizing it. The parish was committed to other projects for the next few months. Mayor Villere suggested moving forward at the corner of Girod Street and Highway 59 since there was the construction of a new carwash opening and the plants would mature together. Mr. Discon commented that the Smoothie King plantings were nice. There was a rain garden was being planted on Marigny Avenue and since it was adjusted, it was work properly.

Ms. Crosby moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Clark and was unanimously approved.

Lori Spranley, Secretary

Karin Crosby, Chairwoman