

MINUTES  
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
October 18, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martin Busch, Steve Doshier, Craig Grotenhouse, Dr. Richard Kovarik, Pat Pummel, Larry Stoner, Jim White, John Wrede

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Chlebek, Bill Lass, Sharlene Mitchell, Ginny Osborne, Lon VanDeusen, Sharon Zeller

OTHERS PRESENT: Gale Holbrook, Tom Horan

Call to Order

Grotenhouse called the meeting to order at 7:05 a.m.

Approval of September 20, 2000 Minutes

**Wrede moved, Doshier seconded and carried unanimously to approve the Minutes of the September 20, 2000 meeting.**

Financial Report

Mitchell reported that the Financial Report remains unchanged.

Landscape "Coke" Sign / West Memorial Park

White indicated that the Messinger family has been advised of the Committee's recommendation to utilize their donation to improve the landscaping around the "Coke" sign in West Memorial Park with the improvements being completed in conjunction with the landscaping project for that area. White indicated that the Messinger family has not responded at this time. Discussion followed regarding the Messinger donation and project selection process.

Code Enforcement Report

Osborne introduced Chlebek noting that he will serve as liaison during her maternity leave. Osborne commented briefly of the recent state wide South Dakota Code Enforcement Association meeting.

In response to Holbrook, Grotenhouse commented on the lack of response received from the Governor's Office regarding utilization of the Cleanup South Dakota program to address maintenance of the railroad right-of-ways. The Committee recommended that Grotenhouse draft a follow up letter in a effort to secure a response from the Governor's Office. Osborne indicated that the right-of-way cleanup funding provided by the railroad for this year has been fully expended.

Discussion followed regarding the Weed Control funding authorized by the City Council for budget year 2001. VanDeusen recommended that the Weed Control Funding be placed on the November agenda for further discussion. Discussion followed regarding responsibility for weed maintenance on City right-of-ways.

Haines Avenue / I-190 Interchange Landscape

Lass introduced Tom Horan of the Department of Transportation. Horan presented the final landscape and irrigation design for the Haines Avenue interchange. In response to Grotenhouse, Lass indicated that he would provide a report at the November meeting regarding

the status of the City and Department of Transportation Maintenance Agreement for the interstate landscape projects.

Horan presented the landscape design for the I-190 interchange noting that irrigation will not be provided to these plantings. A brief discussion followed regarding the permitting of billboards adjacent to the two new interchanges. Horan reviewed the timetable for landscaping installation noting the extent to which Haines Avenue will be reconstructed in conjunction with the interchange project.

#### I-190 Irrigation System

Lass briefly reviewed the previous discussion regarding the removal of existing irrigation adjacent to I-190. Horan reviewed the design changes to the I-190 interchange prompting the removal of the irrigation system. Horan clarified the options available to the Department of Transportation with regard to the replacement of the system:

1. Assume the irrigation is a utility with replacement and maintenance being the owner's (City) responsibility; or
2. The City can request that the Department of Transportation replace the system in kind.

Horan reviewed the I-190 project budget noting that the City must formally request that the Department of Transportation replace the system. Discussion followed regarding the type of irrigation system to be re-installed and extent of irrigation to be replaced (Anamosa Street exit). Discussion followed regarding the manner in which the irrigation issue should be addressed with the City Council.

**Pummel moved to recommend that the City of Rapid City formally request that the Department of Transportation restore the irrigation system along the I-190 interchange where appropriate (Anamosa Street exit southward) with the understanding that the City would be willing to participate in cost sharing for the project. Stoner seconded the motion.** Grotenhouse volunteered to prepare the letter to the Mayor and Council.

Discussion followed regarding maintenance issues associated with the existing I-190 irrigation system. In response to Wrede, Horan reviewed the seed mix utilized for the grass landscaping. Discussion followed regarding the uniqueness of the two interchange projects with the incorporation of the landscaping, the extent of grass seeding completed to date and the possible use of sedum in future plantings. In response to Lass, VanDeusen indicated that City Engineering Staff could prepare rough cost estimates for the irrigation project for City Council consideration. Discussion continued.

**The motion to recommend that the City of Rapid City formally request that the Department of Transportation restore the irrigation system along the I-190 interchange where appropriate (Anamosa Street exit southward) with the understanding that the City would be willing to participate in cost sharing for the project carried unanimously.**

Discussion followed regarding the Department of Transportation's weed control responsibilities within the City limits.

#### Elk Vale Road Welcome Sign

In response to Lass, the Committee recommended that the Elk Vale Road Welcome Sign item be continued to the November meeting.

#### Rapid City Welcome Signs Landscape Recommendations

Pummel presented revised cost estimates for the upgrade and maintenance of landscaping at the Rapid City Welcome Signs. Discussion followed regarding the warranties provided by the individual nurseries and the level of maintenance proposed by the individual landscaping businesses.

The Committee recommended that the individual nurseries submit project bids on their respective bid forms including a one (1) year warranty at 100% replacement with itemized specifications for the annual maintenance to be performed in order to qualify for the one year/100% replacement warranty.

Doshier voiced concern that a precedent will be established should the Committee take responsibility for upgrading and maintaining the Welcome Sign sites. Doshier indicated that it should be the City's responsibility to determine the replanting specifications and maintain the sites. Discussion followed. Grotenhouse requested that the maintenance issue be placed on the November agenda for further discussion.

#### Citizens for a Scenic Rapid City Report

Busch briefly reviewed the research efforts being undertaken regarding the amortization of non-compliant existing signs. Discussion followed regarding the process for bringing the billboard issue to a public vote and utilizing the media to build public support for the issue. Pummel volunteered to research placing the billboard issue on the "KOTA Opinion Poll".

#### Omaha Street Reconstruction/Landscape Subcommittee Report

Doshier briefly outlined the actions needing to be addressed as a result of the initial meeting with the Department of Transportation:

1. The City of Rapid City to formally request that the Department of Transportation incorporate landscaping elements into the Omaha Street reconstruction project;
2. The Mayor's Beautification Committee serve as liaison to the Department of Transportation and provide direction for the development of the landscaping design; and,
3. The City of Rapid City to execute a Maintenance Agreement and assume responsibility for the completed landscape project.

**Doshier moved, Pummel seconded and carried unanimously to recommend that the full Committee endorse the landscape project and prepare a letter to the Department of Transportation regarding the incorporation of landscaping elements into the Omaha Street reconstruction project.** Doshier indicated that he would prepare the letter to the Department of Transportation for Grotenhouse's signature.

#### Keep Rapid City Beautiful

Zeller addressed the reduced Year 2001 advertising budget and her efforts to maximize the available funding.

#### Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

MINUTES  
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
November 15, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martin Busch, Steve Doshier, Craig Grotenhouse, Dr. Richard Kovarik, Pat Pummel, Larry Stoner, Jim White, John Wrede

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Chlebek, Bill Lass, Sharlene Mitchell, Lon VanDeusen, Sharon Zeller

Call to Order

Grotenhouse called the meeting order at 7:01 a.m.

Financial Report

Mitchell briefly reviewed the Committee's current financial status.

Code Enforcement Report

Chlebek announced that Osborne had a daughter and both are doing fine. Chlebek indicated that the Code Enforcement Department would operate with two officers during Osborne's maternity leave. Chlebek indicated that the recent problem with political signs has been resolved. Discussion followed regarding jurisdictional control of the Ashland Heights area. Zeller indicated that concerns with the Ashland Heights area could be directed to the Pennington County Code Enforcement Officer.

Omaha Street Reconstruction/Landscape Subcommittee

Lass briefly reviewed the Committee's previous action requesting that the Department of Transportation incorporate landscaping elements into the Omaha Street reconstruction project. Lass indicated that the Department of Transportation has indicated that the project budget will not support the hiring of a landscape architect. Lass suggested that the Beautification Committee work with the Department of Transportation to determine the level of landscaping that can be incorporated into the project.

Grotenhouse stated that the purpose of the Committee is to advocate beautification noting the need to insure that landscaping is incorporated into the reconstruction project. Doshier commented on the expanse of the Omaha Street project and the impact to existing landscaping. Discussion followed regarding incorporating landscaping elements into the Omaha Street reconstruction project. Wrede suggested that the Committee prepare landscape recommendations for the Omaha Street area. Discussion followed regarding the Committee's qualifications to prepare a landscape plan and the most effective method for addressing the landscaping issue.

The Committee recommended that the Doshier letter be redrafted to the Mayor, the City Council and Todd Seaman of the Department of Transportation. Discussion followed regarding the public hearings schedule for the Omaha Street project.

I-190 Irrigation System

Lass briefly reviewed the previous action taken by the Committee with regard to the replacement of the I-190 irrigation noting that should the City elect to participate financially in the project, project costs and funding sources need to be identified.

Grotenhouse briefly noted the Mayor's position regarding the reinstallation of the I-190 irrigation system. The Committee clarified the specific area to be addressed with regard to the reinstallation of the irrigation as extending from the Anamosa Street bridge north to the start of the I-190 On/Off ramps. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of requesting that the Department of Transportation to replace the entire irrigation system along g I-190.

**Pummel moved, White seconded and carried unanimously to provide a written request to the Department of Transportation to replace the entire irrigation system along I-190 in order to coordinate the beautification efforts along Haines Avenue, Omaha Street and I-190.** Grotenhouse volunteered to prepare the letter to the Department of Transportation.

#### Rapid City Welcome Signs Landscape Recommendations

In response to Pummel, Doshier clarified his position with regard to the Committee's efforts to prepare landscaping plans for replanting of the Welcome Sign sites and the Committee funding any on-going maintenance of the sites. Discussion followed.

Lass acknowledged Pummel's efforts with regard to the Welcome Sign project and thanked her for her work on the project. Lass reviewed the staffing availability for extra projects such as the Welcome Signs.

Wrede suggested that the City consider placing a full-time landscape architect on staff noting the position could be utilized for both City and Beautification Committee projects as well as projects such as Omaha Street. Discussion followed regarding presenting the staffing recommendation to the Mayor for his consideration.

**Wrede moved, Stoner seconded and carried unanimously to encourage the Mayor to research the feasibility of hiring a Landscape Architect/Engineer as it is the Committee's opinion that the position would be of benefit to both the City and the Beautification Committee and that a review of previous expenditures for outside architectural services should support a cost savings to the City.** Grotenhouse volunteered to address this recommendation with the Mayor.

The Committee recommended that Pummel continue with the Welcome Sign project with the intent that the bidding be finalized to allow for spring planting.

#### Citizens for a Scenic Rapid City

Busch reviewed the information provided by Scenic America regarding the legal efforts of Reno, NV and Missouri to eliminate and control billboards and the associated media campaigns against the measures.

Grotenhouse commented on the Mayor's proposal to reinstitute the Billboard Committee noting the Planning Commission recommendation that ordinance amendments be drafted to make billboards a Use on Review process.

#### Landscape "Coke" Sign / West Memorial Park

White indicated that Messinger has declined the "Coke" sign project and briefly noted Messinger's reasons for the decision. Doshier recommended reviewing the Canyon Lake Restoration project proposal for projects the Messinger's might wish to support. White indicated that he would review the Master Plan with the Messinger family.

#### West Memorial Park Project

Lass briefly reviewed the status of the approved funding for the West Memorial Park project noting that the TEA-21 grant has not been submitted at this time. VanDeusen commented on the removal of dead trees from the park area.

Lass indicated that the Bureau of Reclamation and Beautification funding would be utilized to initiate the West Memorial Project with the TEA-21 funding utilized to complete the project if and when received.

White requested that Code Enforcement inspect the intersection of Berry Pine Road and Nemo Road for sight obstructions.

#### Elk Vale Road Welcome Sign

Due to current staffing levels, Lass requested that this item be tabled.

#### Keep Rapid City Beautiful

Zeller indicated that the Omaha Street Department of Transportation public hearing will be November 21, 2000 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel. Zeller reviewed the focus of the American Recycle Day program to promote the purchase of recycled products and encourage recycling.

Zeller commented on the storm drain stenciling project to build awareness of the Rapid Creek water quality noting that the juvenile detention program is assisting in the project.

#### Park Superintendent Report

VanDeusen commented on the status of the Deer eradication program. VanDeusen commented on the funding increased approved for Year 2001 for both the Parks and Code Enforcement Departments to be utilized for weed control.

#### Other Business

Zeller commented on the curb side recycling program and public utilization of the City's recycling bins. Zeller commented on the discussion regarding institution of incentives to encourage recycling. Discussion followed regarding the Waste Management of the Black Hills tipping fees.

Lass noted that the South Dakota Department of Transportation staff has indicated that there is an existing maintenance agreement for the Haines Avenue and I-190 Interchange.

VanDeusen clarified that weed control along state routes is the responsibility of the Department of Transportation and requested the Committee's assistance in identifying problem areas. VanDeusen indicated that the City and State staff would review the jurisdictional responsibility for weed maintenance along those routes.

VanDeusen indicated that ornamental crab trees are being replanted along West Chicago. Discussion followed.

In response to Kovorik's concerns, Chlevek indicated that he would research the status of the "Old Marine Life" site on U.S. Highway 16.

#### Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.