

MINUTES
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
February 21, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martin Busch, Steve Doshier, Craig Grotenhouse, Pat Pummel, Larry Stoner, Jim White

OTHERS PRESENT: Carrie Cisle, Stuart Wevik

STAFF PRESENT: Andrew Chlebek, Rod Johnson, Bill Lass, Sharlene Mitchell

Call to Order

Grotenhouse called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

Power Line Reconstruction Projects

Stuart Wevik, Black Hills Power & Light, provided a brief review of the power line upgrades proposed for the Omaha Street and Canyon Lake Drive areas. Wevik addressed the construction and maintenance costs associated with placing power lines underground and the annual budget authority identified for these improvement projects. Wevik requested the Committee's assistance and direction in identifying grant programs to assist in funding the power line improvement projects. Wevik presented an area map identifying locations throughout the City where power line improvements have been completed noting the efforts to be sensitive to the neighborhood aesthetics.

Discussion followed regarding the current power line improvement projects and the advantages, disadvantages and maintenance issues associated with overhead and underground power lines. Wevik indicated that only water and sewer utilities are incorporated into street reconstruction projects noting that the relocation of private enterprise utilities are the responsibility of the individual company. Wevik commented on the efforts to coordinate utility and road construction projects noting that power lines are located in the right-of-way.

Discussion followed regarding the power line location regulations of other communities. Wevik indicated that, if requested, underground power would be provided to new developments and reviewed the financial impact to all utility subscribers. Wevik commented on the status of the West Chicago Street power lines indicating that high transmission power lines would not be placed underground.

Lass proposed incorporating the Omaha Street power line improvements into the West Memorial Park TEA-21 grant application. Discussion followed regarding the impact approval of the West Memorial Park grant application would have on the Canyon Lake Road power line improvement project.

The Committee requested that staff research the possibility of combining the West Memorial Park and Omaha Street power line projects into the TEA-21 grant application. Discussion followed regarding coordination of the two projects into one grant application and the partnering of government and private enterprise projects.

Messinger Donation Project

Noting the Messinger family connection to the Canyon Lake Park area, Cisle presented a shelter design proposal of what the family envisioned for the chimney site. Discussion followed regarding incorporation of the shelter structure into the existing chimney area. Cisle

encouraged the Committee to provide the Messinger family with monthly status updates on the project.

Johnson addressed the patio and lake shore stabilization requirements of the site noting that the shelter could be constructed on the east side of the chimney in the same location as the original residence. Johnson indicated that the shelter could be constructed now with the stabilization work being completed at a future date. Johnson suggested that the Public Works Department assume administration of the project.

Doshier proposed presenting the shelter and stabilization projects to the Parks & Recreation Subcommittee for their review and consideration. Johnson indicated that while the two projects could be completed independent of each other costs benefits would be realized by combining them into a single project. Discussion followed.

To insure the Messinger's family continued interest in and support of the project, Cisle again urged the City to provide the family with regular correspondence regarding the progress of the project.

White moved, Pummel seconded and carried unanimously to refer the Messinger Donation project at the Canyon Lake chimney site to the Parks & Recreation Subcommittee for review and consideration and to direct that the Messinger family be advised of the project's progress on a regular basis. Grotenhouse requested that Lass prepare a letter to the Messinger family advising them of the current status of the Canyon Lake project.

Billboard / Roof Sign Letter

Grotenhouse indicated that as of this date he has not received a response from the Mayor's office regarding the legality of the billboard constructed at 1104 Jackson Boulevard. Discussion followed regarding the proposed Department of Transportation legislation regarding enforcement issues in the right-of-ways.

Approval of Minutes

Busch moved, White seconded and carried unanimously to approve the Minutes of the December 20, 2000; January 5, 2001; and January 31, 2001 meetings.

Financial Report

Mitchell indicated that there were no changes to the financial report noting that the Finance Office would be contacted requesting an update of the interest accrual on the account.

Haines/I-190 Landscaping Subcommittee Report

Grotenhouse indicated that the Subcommittee reviewed the original landscape design with the goal being the sufficient reduction of landscaping elements to provide a project cost in line with the approved budget. Grotenhouse stated that with the application of two criteria, irrigation and area, the consensus of the Subcommittee was to shift the majority of landscaping to the Haines Avenue intersection. Lass indicated that the Subcommittee would meet on March 6th to review the revised landscape plan.

West Memorial Park Project

Lass indicated that the Council has approved the submission of a TEA-21 grant application for the West Memorial Park project with the Beautification Committee pledging their entire account

balance of \$66,907.12 as grant match. Lass indicated that he would research incorporating the powerline project into the grant application.

Omaha Street Reconstruction / Landscaping Subcommittee

Doshier requested that Bonnie Hughes be invited to the March meeting to address the Hubbard Mill issues.

Code Enforcement Report

Chlebek indicated that staff is handling snow issues including snow storage within the intersection sight triangles. Chlebek indicated that the Code Enforcement Department is a staff of two as Osborne has resigned her position.

Grotenhouse commented on the snow removal issues along Deadwood Avenue and requested staff assistance in correcting the problems. In response to Doshier, Chlebek indicated that staff is working with the East Main Street property owner to clean up the property. Discussion followed regarding abandoned cars on Wedgewood Drive.

Rapid City Urban Forestry Board Workshop

Lass indicated that information regarding the workshop has been provided in the packet.

Citizens for a Scenic Rapid City

Discussion followed regarding the recent Letter to the Editor proposing the taxing of billboards. Busch commented on his research into billboard regulations developed by other communities noting the need to gauge community support for the Committee's proposals. Discussion followed regarding possible avenues to determine public support for the billboard proposals. Cisle indicated that the upcoming April election provides the opportune time to address the billboard issue with the candidates.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 a.m.

MINUTES
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
March 21, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martin Busch, Steve Doshier, Craig Grotenhouse, Pat Pummel, Larry Stoner, John Wrede

STAFF PRESENT: Andrew Chlebek, Bonnie Hughes, Bill Lass, Sharlene Mitchell

Call to Order

Grotenhouse called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

Financial Report

Mitchell indicated that the entire fund balance of \$66,907.12 has been committed as match funding for the West Memorial Park TEA-21 grant application. Mitchell indicated that she would again contact the Finance Office regarding interest accrual on the Beautification account balance.

Haines/I-190 Landscape Subcommittee Report

Lass briefly summarized the Subcommittee's recommendations with regard to reduction and elimination of landscape plantings in an effort to bring the cost of the Haines/I-190 Landscape project in line with the established budget of \$225,000.00. Lass indicated that the landscape project would be re-bid this spring with planting projected for fall of 2001. Discussion followed regarding the proposed landscaping revisions.

Omaha Street Reconstruction/Landscaping Subcommittee

Bonnie Hughes, Community Development Director, briefly reviewed the discussions between the South Dakota Department of Transportation, Hubbard Mill and the City regarding the Omaha Street Reconstruction project. Hughes indicated that the Mayer Radio property has been purchased and that the building will be razed to allow the relocation of Omaha Street around the Hubbard Mill property. Hughes commented on the daily truck and train traffic handled by the mill and their efforts to schedule that traffic around peak travel times. Discussion continued regarding pedestrian and truck traffic redesign on the mill site.

In response to Doshier, Hughes indicated that relocation or redesign of the mill was cost prohibitive and available funding sources were insufficient to facilitate either proposal. Discussion followed regarding the impact of the Omaha Street Reconstruction project on the City property and other Omaha Street business owners.

Lass indicated that a Subcommittee meeting would be scheduled with the Department of Transportation to review the final design plans. Lass commented on the limited funding available for landscape improvements and encouraged the Committee to present their landscaping recommendations to the Department of Transportation.

Noting that Omaha Street will be expanded to seven lanes from East Boulevard to 12th Street, Hughes commented on the need to develop a safe pedestrian access at the Sixth Street intersection. Discussion followed regarding the location and design of a safe pedestrian access across Omaha Street.

In response to Doshier, Hughes indicated that Black Hills Power & Light had been referred to the Beautification Committee due to the Committee's long standing interest in the overhead

power line issue. Discussion followed regarding the funding requirements to facilitate the relocation or burying of power lines.

Lass indicated that the Committee will be proposing to the City Council that the West Memorial Park TEA-21 grant application incorporate the cost to place the Omaha Street power lines underground. Lass noted that approval of the TEA-12 grant will allow Black Hills Power and Light to direct funding identified for the Omaha Street project into improvements on Canyon Lake Drive.

Discussion followed regarding the cost to maintain underground and overhead power lines. Lass indicated that he is working with Stuart Wevik of Black Hills Power and Light to identify the power line costs to be incorporated into the TEA-21 grant application.

West Memorial Park Project

Lass indicated that the Department of Transportation has indicated that the power line project can be incorporated into the TEA-21 grant application. Discussion followed regarding the philosophy of utilizing public monies to facilitate private enterprise projects.

In response to Doshier, Lass briefly reviewed the materials and issues that would be addressed in the TEA-21 grant application including improvements to the drainage ditch and power lines. At Doshier's request, Lass indicated that he would provide a draft copy of the grant application to the Committee for their review and comment.

Code Enforcement Report

Chlebek briefly reviewed the issues addressed by Code Enforcement in the past month noting that political signs will be their focus for the next few weeks. Discussion followed regarding enforcement of vehicle parking in the right-of-way and cleanup of the East Main Street property. Doshier requested that staff inspect the YMCA property for compliance with the landscape ordinance.

Other Business

In response to Grotenhouse, Lass indicated that the Landscape Ordinance Review Committee would resume their work in the near future noting that the Committee vacancies will require appointment. *Grotenhouse requested that the landscape plan for the Outback Steak House be reviewed at the April meeting.*

In response to Wrede, Lass indicated that the Bureau of Reclamation project would be incorporated into the Roosevelt Park improvement project. *Lass indicated that Rod Johnson and Keith Johnson would be invited to the April meeting to review the Roosevelt Park project and pond improvements.*

Rapid City Welcome Signs Landscape Recommendations

Pummel briefly reviewed the status of the Welcome Sign landscape project noting the need to standardize the planting proposals for each site prior to securing final project bids. Noting that all available funding has been pledged to the West Memorial Park Project, Pummel questioned the need to continue with the Welcome Sign project.

Discussion followed regarding securing corporate sponsorships to replant and maintain the Welcome Sign sites. Pummel volunteered to contact local businesses regarding sponsorship of the Welcome Sign sites. Discussion followed regarding the philosophy of fund raising from

private sources for development and maintenance of public projects. Stoner indicated that the Master Gardener program requires volunteering for projects such as the Welcome Signs and referred Pummel to Bill Keck of the County Extension Office.

Stoner moved, Busch seconded and carried to endorse Pummel's efforts to secure corporate sponsorship and/or donations for the replanting and maintenance of the Welcome Signs. (Yes: Stoner, Busch, Pummel; No: Doshier; Abstain: Wrede)

Citizens for a Scenic Rapid City

Busch indicated that the Citizens for a Scenic Rapid City Committee would reconvene work on the billboard issue within the next couple of months.

Council Liaison

In response to Pummel, Lass recommended that the Committee work with the Mayor and Council regarding appointment of the Beautification Committee Council Liaison.

Urban Redevelopment

Wrede presented photographs from Albany, NY depicting the community's efforts to improve blighted downtown areas. Discussion followed regarding urban redevelopment.

Clean Up Day

Chlebek indicated that cleanup day has been scheduled for April 28th with the Mayor's Office coordinating the Cleanup Day program.

Messinger Donation

In response to Grotenhouse, Lass indicated that the Public Works Department staff has taken the lead in addressing improvements to the Canyon Lake chimney site. Lass indicated that the Beautification Committee would be kept apprised of the progress on the project.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.