

MINUTES  
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
August 15, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martin Busch, Steve Doshier, Craig Grotenhouse, Joel Jundt, Sue Larson, Larry Stoner, Jim White, John Wrede

OTHERS PRESENT: Council Liaison Ron Kroeger, Mayor Jerry Munson

STAFF PRESENT: Andrew Chlebek, Bill Lass, Sharlene Mitchell, Brad Solon

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes

**Wrede moved, Stoner seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2001 and July 18, 2001 meetings.**

Financial Report

Mitchell reviewed the Financial Report noting the interest received and the Department of Transportation payment for the Omaha Street landscape design fees. Mitchell indicated that the unencumbered balance remaining is \$4,241.04.

Mitchell indicated that the Five-Year Plan has been placed on the agenda at the Committee's direction to insure that the Plan is updated and submitted to the Capital Improvements Committee on an annual basis.

Prioritized Project Subcommittee

Lass briefly reviewed the process for updating the Project Priority List and Five-Year Plan. Lass indicated that the Subcommittee would review and formulate the prioritized list of projects and issues for full Committee review. Grotenhouse volunteered to serve on the Subcommittee. Discussion followed regarding formulation of priorities.

Beautification Bylaws

Busch indicated that the Subcommittee will be reviewing the document and will present recommendations at the September meeting.

Code Enforcement Report

Chlebek indicated that Vespested has been promoted to the vacant Officer position and a third Code Enforcement position has been posted.

Discussion followed regarding spraying of weeds along City rights-of-way. Kroeger commented on the funding appropriate for weed control. Doshier requested that VanDeusen provide a report at the September meeting regarding the weed control project.

Discussion followed regarding landscape maintenance requirements for businesses. Chlebek provided a brief report on the process followed in addressing complaints. [Munson entered the meeting at this time.]

Doshier requested that staff research possible methods for screening the exterior fencing at Lien Field. Chlebek indicated that he would review the issue and provide a report at the

September meeting. Discussion followed regarding the utilization of a landscaping screen around the fence. The Committee complemented the City on the Sioux Park project.

Munson addressed his concerns with the DM&E billboard issue. Lass reviewed the location of the billboard permits issued for railroad property. Discussion followed regarding the eminent domain authority of the railroad. Munson indicated that he would request legal council review of the City's right-of-way lease with the railroad. [Munson left the meeting at this time.]

#### Donation Acceptance Subcommittee

Doshier requested that this item be continued to the September meeting to allow Pummel to report on the Subcommittee's recommendations.

#### Billboard Subcommittee

Busch indicated that the Subcommittee is continuing to meet and would also review the DM&E billboard issue. [Solon entered the meeting at this time.]

Grotenhouse commented on the legal status of the billboard constructed over a rooftop on Jackson Boulevard. Solon reviewed the roof sign criteria and the appeal process. Solon clarified that the Jackson Boulevard structure does not meet the criteria for a roof sign. Discussion followed.

Solon indicated that the sign permits have been issued for structures located on parcels of land owned by the railroad noting that property taxes are being paid on these locations. Discussion followed regarding additional railroad sites within the city, taxation of billboards and use of advertising banners. [Solon left the meeting at this time.]

#### Nemo Road Update

Mitchell presented the Nemo Road information obtained by Lass. White indicated that he would contact the County regarding final plans for the Berry Pine/Nemo Road intersection.

#### Haines Avenue/I-190 Landscaping

Jundt indicated that the final landscape design plan for the Haines Avenue/I-90 Interchange would be provided at the September meeting. In response to Doshier, Jundt indicated that he would review the irrigation issues on the I-190 Interchange. Discussion followed regarding the landscaping of the Haines Avenue/I-90 Interchange. Lass indicated that landscaping of the interchange should begin in September with completion scheduled for early Spring 2002. Doshier complemented the Department of Transportation on the appearance of the Haines Avenue interchange.

Noting that he has volunteered to purchase the tree, White requested staff assistance with tree selection and planting at the South Highway 79 Welcome Sign. [White left the meeting at this time.]

#### Omaha Street Reconstruction/Landscaping

Lass stated that the Department of Transportation would contact the Committee regarding landscaping improvements on Omaha Street. Discussion followed regarding the level of Committee participation in the overall design process. Jundt commented on the current status of the project and inclusion of the Committee in the design process. Discussion followed regarding availability of enhancement funding for the Omaha Street project.

### Landscape Code

Lass briefly addressed the current status of the project noting that the main issue of concern, site triangles, has been addressed and clarified with the Engineering staff. Lass recommended that the Committee review and comment on the draft ordinance. He indicated that the ordinance would also be routed to all City departments for their comment and review.

Grotenhouse recommended that the Landscape Code Subcommittee review the ordinance and that the final draft then be routed to the City departments for review and comment. Discussion followed regarding the status and membership of the Landscape Code Subcommittee. [Larson left the meeting at this time.]

*The Committee recommended that the Landscape Code Subcommittee be reconvened to review the draft Landscape Code Ordinance and to establish a master list of recommended revisions to the ordinance.*

### Other Business

In response to Doshier, Lass indicated that he would review the Chapel Valley Drainage Project and provide a report at the September meeting regarding replanting of trees.

Wrede commented on the impact the new housing development on the west side of Skyline Drive has had on some downhill properties. Discussion followed regarding damage protection requirements for adjacent properties.

Doshier volunteered to write a letter to Todd Seaman and the Department of Transportation to recognize them for their willingness to work with the City on the Haines Avenue project and complementing them on its aesthetic appearance. Doshier noted that the interchange not only improves traffic flows but also improves the area visually.

### Adjourn

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