

MINUTES
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
December 20, 2000

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Todd Seaman

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

Call to Order

Grotenhouse called the meeting to order at 7:03 a.m.

DOT Interstate Reconstruction / Enhancement Project

Seaman presented the bid summary for the Haines Avenue/I-190 landscape project. Seaman commented on the need to bring the project costs in line with the established budget by reducing elements from the Haines Avenue portion of the project. Seaman reviewed landscape elements that could be reduced or eliminated in order to bring the project in line with the approved budget. Discussion followed regarding the aesthetic value of the Haines Avenue plantings versus the I-190 plantings, possible reductions in landscape elements to bring the project in line with the approved budget and the impact of the two year warranty period on the cost of plantings. Lass indicated that a committee member has expressed a desire to donate funding specifically to the Haines Avenue landscape project.

Seaman requested direction from the Committee regarding the best method for re-evaluating the landscape plans. Grotenhouse, Pummel, Wrede, VanDeusen and Lass volunteered to assist the Department of Transportation in reviewing the Haines Avenue/I-190 landscape projects.

Discussion followed regarding the installation of irrigation along I-190 in conjunction with the reduction of landscape elements in order to bring the project in line with the established budget. Seaman indicated that the existing maintenance agreement addresses only the plantings and requested clarification of the maintenance responsibilities for the irrigation system.

Lass commented on the Committee's request that landscaping elements be incorporated into the Omaha Street reconstruction project. Seaman reviewed areas where landscape elements could be incorporated noting that trees removed from Memorial Park would be replaced and median plantings could be incorporated if the proposals were reasonable. Seaman indicated that the Department of Transportation could provide staff assistance to the Omaha Street landscape project.

In response to VanDeusen, Seaman indicated that the Department of Transportation would be willing to review right-of-way weed control responsibilities with City staff. Discussion followed regarding weed spraying practices and responsibilities.

Code Enforcement Report

Chlebek briefly reviewed the on-going Ashland Heights cleanup efforts of the County Code Enforcement Department. Chlebek indicated that the Marine World site has been cleaned up and that courtesy notes have been provided to businesses along the main access routes addressing sidewalk maintenance during the winter season.

Approval of Minutes: October 18, 2000 and November 15, 2000

Wrede moved, Pummel seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2000 meeting. Wrede moved, Busch seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2000 meeting.

Omaha Street Reconstruction / Landscaping Subcommittee.

Lass recommended that Committee members attend the January 10, 2001 Public Works meeting to address their request to the City Council for the Department of Transportation to hire a consultant to develop a landscape plan for Omaha Street.

I-190 Irrigation System

Martin moved, Pummel seconded and carried unanimously to defer action on the I-190 Irrigation System pending the impact of the landscape reduction on the Interstate Reconstruction budget.

Keep Rapid City Beautiful

Discussion followed regarding the elimination of staffing for the Keep Rapid City Beautiful position. Grotenhouse volunteered to address the elimination of the position with the Mayor. Discussion followed regarding reinstatement of the position in the Year 2001 budget. Pummel volunteered to write a letter of support for the retention of the Keep Rapid City Beautiful position.

Other Business

Busch, Pummel and Wrede indicated an interest in accepting reappointment and Kovarik declined the opportunity to be reappointed to the Beautification Committee. Mitchell indicated that Williams had indicated an interest in being reappointed to the Committee.

Adjourn

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

MINUTES
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
January 5, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martin Busch, Steve Doshier, Craig Grotenhouse, Pat Pummel, Jim White, John Wrede

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Chlebek, Rodell Grosz, Bill Lass, Sharlene Mitchell

Call to Order

Grotenhouse called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Financial Report

Mitchell briefly reviewed the financial report indicating that an update of interest accrual has been requested.

West Memorial Park Project

Grosz briefly reviewed the West Memorial Park Bureau of Reclamation project, City Council's concerns with the project design costs and the impact of federal requirements on the project. Grosz presented Council's recommendation to restrict the project to the demonstration garden and Public Works' proposal to relocate the demonstration garden to Roosevelt Park. Discussion followed regarding the existing and proposed Roosevelt Park amenities that would enhance the demonstration garden project and the existing attributes of West Memorial Park that would be a detriment to the success of the project.

Busch reviewed the Committee's history with regard to improving the appearance of the I-190 corridor into the City including West Memorial Park. Busch acknowledged the worth of the Roosevelt Park project but indicated that he could not support a transfer of Beautification funding from West Memorial Park to Roosevelt Park.

In response to Doshier, Lass indicated that current staffing levels have restricted staff's ability to initiate the TEA-21 grant application. Discussion followed regarding funding match guidelines for the TEA-21 program. Lass clarified that should the Bureau of Reclamation project be relocated to Roosevelt Park that funding would not be available for match purposes at West Memorial Park. Discussion followed regarding the West Memorial Park Master Plan.

Acknowledging the public worth of the Roosevelt Park project, Doshier voiced his support for retention of the Beautification funding for improvements at West Memorial Park. Discussion followed regarding the TEA-21 application and improving the appearance of the I-190 corridor entrance into the City including West Memorial Park.

White moved, Pummel seconded and carried unanimously to acknowledge the worth of the Roosevelt Park project and support the relocation of the Bureau of Reclamation demonstration garden to that site and to acknowledge the value of improvements to West Memorial Park due to its location within the I-190 entrance corridor and to retain the Beautification funding for utilization as match for a TEA-21 grant application to facilitate improvements to West Memorial Park.

Other Business

Grotenhouse indicated that, at his request, the City Attorney's Office is reviewing the language of the Sign Code with regard to the definition of a "roof" sign. Discussion followed regarding the

issuance of permits prior to final adoption of the new Sign Code resulting in the on-going construction of grandfathered non-compliant billboards.

In response to Lass's request, Grotenhouse and Doshier indicated that they would attend the January 10, 2001 Public Works meeting to address the Omaha Street landscaping request.

[Grotenhouse left the meeting at this time and Wrede assumed the Chair.]

Messinger Donation Project

White indicated that the Engineering staff is reviewing the Canyon Lake Chimney project to determine if the donation can be used for area improvements. Discussion followed regarding reviewing the Canyon Lake Master Plan to determine if the donation could be utilized to complete other elements of the plan.

Discussion followed regarding the loss of the Keep Rapid City Beautification position. The Committee requested that this item be placed on the February agenda for further discussion.

In response to Doshier, Lass indicated that with the additional staffing his planning responsibilities are being re-evaluated with regard to such projects as the Landscaping Ordinance Committee. The Committee requested that this item be placed on the February agenda for further discussion.

Code Enforcement Report

Chlebek commented on the educational mailing completed regarding snow removal requirements. Discussion followed regarding snow removal responsibility for those sections of sidewalk that are both sidewalk and bikepath.

White suggested that sidewalk maintenance from The Black Hills Workshop to Stevens High School be reviewed. White also requested that Code Enforcement inspect the junk cars stored at 402 St. Joseph Street and cleanup of trash along Shopko's southern property line. Doshier requested that the Warehouse Casino site be reviewed for junk.

Other Business

Discussion followed regarding the proposed improvements to West Memorial Park.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

Minutes
Mayor's Beautification Committee
1/31/01

The Mayor's Beautification Committee held a special meeting at 7:30 A.M. on Wednesday, January 31, 2001 in the Third Floor West Conference Room of the City/School Administration Center. Members in attendance included: Craig Grotenhouse, Larry Stoner, Steve Doshier, Martin Busch, Pat Pummel, and Jim White. Staff in attendance included Bill Lass and Lon VanDeusen.

Grotenhouse called the meeting to order at 7:30 A.M. and explained that the sole purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the West Memorial Park project.

Lass explained that the City Council had voted to move the proposed Bureau of Reclamation Public Xeriscape Garden project to Roosevelt Park rather than West Memorial Park. Lass stated that this action had resulted in the removal of the majority of the matching funds for the proposed TEA-21 grant application for West Memorial Park. Lass added that Staff would be appearing before the City Public Works Committee later today to request their direction regarding the project.

Pummel asked why the decision had been made to move the Xeriscape project to Roosevelt Park. Lass stated that the main reasons were public accessibility and the size of the project area. Busch and Stoner reminded the Committee that they had taken action at their last meeting to recommend withholding the \$30,000 in beautification funding from the Xeriscape garden if it was to be moved to Roosevelt Park.

Doshier recommended using all of the Beautification Committee's remaining funding (approximately \$60,000) to use as match for a TEA-21 grant application to complete all of the West Memorial Park improvements. Lass stated that based upon this amount of match, the total grant amount that could be requested would probably not cover all of the improvements proposed in the current master plan. Grotenhouse stated that he thought the project should be scaled back anyway with no intensively landscaped flower or shrub areas. The consensus of the Committee is that scaling back the project in this way would be appropriate. Doshier suggested that much of the construction could be done in conjunction with the Omaha Street widening slated for 2003.

Discussion continued.

Doshier made a motion to recommend to the City Council that all of the remaining Donor Funds be used as match for a TEA-21 Enhancement Grant application to fund completion of the entire West Memorial Park Master Plan with the project being scaled back appropriately to fit the budget. Motion was seconded by Pummel and approved unanimously.

Doshier and Grotenhouse volunteered to attend the January 31 Public Works Committee meeting to present this recommendation.

In other business, White inquired as to why so many new billboards were being allowed in Rapid City. Busch stated that many of the billboard permits were secured by sign contractors prior to the new Sign Ordinance taking effect. Grotenhouse pointed out that many of the new

signs were not even leased yet. Grotenhouse mentioned his ongoing concern with the new sign erected over the top of a business along Jackson Boulevard and the City's interpretation of the Sign Code which allowed this sign.

Grotenhouse asked if a February Beautification Committee meeting was going to be needed. Lass recommended that the Committee hold their February meeting as there were several issues that warranted discussion.

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 A.M.