Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2023 Town Hall 5:00pm

In Attendance: Martha, Anna, Yvonne, June, Larry, Bud

Meeting called to order 5:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Attendees reviewed previous month’s minutes. Anna motions to accept minutes, June seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.

Martha reviewed the income and expenses related to First Saturday Breakfast, additional expenses for Christmas Eve Dinner, Christmas decorations and Christmas Lights Contest. There was some confusion the way income from First Saturday Breakfast was on the income/expense report. Vote to accept income/expense report for December 2022 was waived until February 2023 meeting so correction could be made.

**UPDATES**

* **FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST**
  + Total moneys collected $447 which included tips
  + 75 entrees served, 51 drinks, 13 sides, 20 Specials (2 eggs, grits, 1 sausage patty, and 1 pancake or 1 toast)
  + Discussion on increased costs. Yvonne motions to increase price of breakfast entrees by $1 each ($3 meals to $4, $5 meals to $6), sides and drinks to remain at current price, new prices on entrees effective February 2023. June seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
  + Discussion on January Special. Great response. June motions to add “Pomona Platter” consisting of 2 eggs, grits, 2 sausage patties and 2 pancakes or 2 toast at a price of $7 to menu. Anna seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
  + Discussion on monthly specials. Anna motions February Special to be 1 waffle with strawberries and whip cream at a price of $5. Yvonne seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
* **CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER**
  + A total of **325** plates of food were served, which includes the 122 individuals that had dinner at the Community Center.
  + Total expenses $928.45 of which $691.97 had been approved in December 2022. Anna motions to pay additional $236.48 expenses for perishable foods. Yvonne seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
  + Total cash income from donations $1215; $1010 received before December Beautification meeting; $105 received at Dinner and $100 donated back from First Place Christmas Light Contest winner.
  + Income was greater than expenses by $286.55
  + Discussion on feedback from community about event which was 100% positive.
  + Anna motioned to reserve the Community Center immediately for 2nd Annual Christmas Eve Dinner to be held December 23, 2023. Yvonne seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
* **NEW CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS PURCHASED**
  + $225.99 spent on new decorations which include, but are not limited to, lighted swags, floral sprays, table décor, and a new tree skirt
  + Received donation of a 6 1/2-foot pre-lit slim Christmas tree.
  + Inventory audit needs to be completed. Date TBD (on a Monday or Wednesday)
* **GIFT BASKET RAFFLE SALES**
  + Total raffle sales $340 from current and previous reports.
  + Total expenses $86.90
  + Income was greater than expenses by $253.10
* **COMMUNITY GARDEN**
  + Line by line discussion on proposed Community Gardener Agreement. Input from committee and attendees. Changes to be made and ratified at next Beautification Committee meeting (February 6, 2023)
  + Motion by June to purchase 5 (five) each hand trowels, hand rakes and clippers to be given as an introductory gift to Gardeners participating in Community Garden at a cost not to exceed $50. Second by Anna. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
  + Anna to post on Facebook for interested parties to attend February Beautification Committee meeting.
  + Discussion on near future expenses
    - Garden Sign/Notice board – Martha to pursue quote
    - Composting Bins – June to provide prices for chicken wire, screws, washers
    - Watering – June to provide prices for 2 each watering cans, rain barrels with spigots, 1 each 25-foot hose, garden cart, garden fork
    - Benches – June to provide pricing and options for 2 benches
* Discussion on publicly accessible free produce stand
  + Committee in agreement this is a Fall project
* **POST OFFICE PROJECT**
  + $260 expenses that were not budgeted separately; these expenses to be paid from the $2000 allotted for Town Hall plantings
  + No other plantings planned at this location at this time
* **CHRISTMAS LIGHT COMPETITION**
  + Three prizes were awarded; $100, $75 and $50
  + First place winner donated prize back to Beautification Committee for Christmas Eve Dinner

**BOARD MEMBER APPLICATION REVIEW**

* Discussion and review of Application. Committee’s recommendations to be sent to Town Clerk.

**BEAUTIFICATION AWARD**

* + Nominations for 202 E Main St and 405 W Main St.
* Yvonne motions for 405 W Main St to be recipient of award this cycle. Anna seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.

**COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP**

* + Proposal for a Community Clean-up bi-monthly starting in concurrence with annual Putnam County event met with great enthusiasm.
  + Suggestion made for Adopt-A-Street; further discussion needed
  + Contact High School about student volunteer opportunities
  + Anna motions to purchase 3 (three) 6-packs of trash pickers to add to our stock and supply at a cost not to exceed $150. June seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
  + Anna motions to purchase 2 (two) double sided “BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT” signs not to exceed $60. Yvonne seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.

**BOOK DEN AT COMMUNITY CENTER**

* Martha to ask this project be put on Council meeting agenda to get clarification and permission to clean up and organize the Book Den
* Anna expressed great enthusiasm to tackle this area

**NEW PLANTING PROJECTS**

* Flagpole at Community Center
* Overflow parking for Community Center - general clean-up, rake leaves, trim bushes, pressure wash bench. Date TBD
  + Can we get town maintenance to repaint parking spaces in this lot and lot around/behind Community Center?
  + Can town use ARPA funds for a bus shelter be built at this location?

**TOWN HALL PLANTING PROJECT**

* Larry and Bud to move current planters from in front of building to S. Broward Ave – future home of the Pomona Park Community Garden
* Plants from above planters will be utilized in future projects
* Weed cloth and mulch to be used around the sign in front of Town Hall
* June will present 3 options for plants to be used in the new planters at February committee meeting.

**NEXT EVENT**

* **Easter Egg Hunt at Mayor’s Park**
  + Budget $300
  + Event date: April 8, 2023 10am-11am
  + Participants will be broken into 2 groups: 2–5-year-olds and 6–10-year-olds.
  + Anna motions to purchase 500 plastic, pre-filled Easter eggs not to exceed $150. June seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.
    - 200 eggs for 2-5 age group
    - 300 eggs for 6-10 age group
* 4 Golden Eggs (2 per age group) to win Easter Basket
* Contact High School about student volunteer opportunities
* Easter Bunny Costume
* **Quilt Raffle –** Committee has been offered a quilt, made by a former Beautification Committee member, to be used to raise funds for future projects. Details TBD at February Committee meeting.

**COMMUNITY FEEDBACK**

* Residents would like to see fruit trees in park areas
* Trimming bushes and trees to improve sight lines to be forwarded to City Council

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Can we start a group project to help widows, elderly, single moms, handicap with yard clean-up? Nothing fancy, just mow grass, pick-up downed tree limbs and trash. Another good opportunity for High School student volunteers. This suggestion was met with general approval, further discussion needed.

Yvonne motions to adjourn. Anna seconds. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned 9:05pm