



## MINUTES–Beautification Advisory Board

April 25, 2023

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The Beautification Advisory Board of the City of Fort Myers, Florida, met in regular session at Oscar M. Corbin, Jr. City Hall 2200 Second Street, on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. Present were Board Members, Zane Stoneman, Debbie Hughes, Piper Smith, and Mathew Lincolnhol. Also present were Jose Parrilla, Parks & Beautification Interim Manager, and Michele Jones, Administrative Assistant. Absent: Margie Willis, Elaine Gulati, and Pattie Robinson

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Board Member Hughes called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG AND ROLL CALL**

Board Member Debbie Hughes led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and roll call was taken by Ms. Jones.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jim Pridgen, descendant of Vivas family gave an update on Vivas Palm Park. Mr. Pridgen discussed how they just held their first annual Vivas Palm Park Earth Day cleanup with Keep Lee County Beautiful. Jose Parrilla said to let him know the next time they have a cleanup, and Parks will help. Mr. Pridgen spoke about the Paratrooper monument that needs restoring is a manikin in full uniform that has been plastered over. Mr. Pridgen stated that Tom Hall, Public Art Consultant, is working on a secret project for the park that will be a surprise. Mr. Parrilla discussed they run a new two-inch line and are now waiting on a new backflow that has been ordered and should be done the first part of May. Discussion about the plans and the project currently being on hold until Alzeta breaks ground. Mr. Pridgen discussed that the Yacht Basin also wants to contribute to the park.

### **REGULAR ITEMS**

1. Minutes of the March 28, 2023 Beautification Advisory Board Meeting

**MOTION: Board Member Lincolnhol moved to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2023 Beautification Advisory Board meeting; seconded by Board Member Smith; motion carried unanimously.**

2. Update on MLK

Jose Parrilla discussed that they have two islands left that irrigation has been checked and are ready for mulch. Mr. Parrilla stated that they just picked up 18 Crepe Myrtles from Cherry Lake that will be installed in the vacant spots and then they will go back and finish mulching the last two islands.



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### 3. Beautification Awards

Jose Parrilla discussed that at our last meeting, the selection of 3527 E. Riverside Drive is a duplicate from December 2021 and asked if they would like to proceed with runner up at 204 Manor Parkway or would they like to start selection over. Board Members discussed that Ward 1 should be looked at again, and that anyone who has a chance can submit a photo for consideration of an award at our next meeting that will be in June. Discussion about sharing the responsibility of searching for houses to give an award, and the best way for submitting a photo would be to send an email to Michele with any pictures prior to meeting for it can be included in agenda packet, allowing everyone to view ahead of meeting. Any pictures not submitted prior to the meeting will be placed on the projector for everyone to view. Ms. Smith discussed getting the word out about homeowner's submitting nominations and that the news-press would be a good option. Mr. Parrilla said he will talk to the City's Public Information Officer about coming out to take a picture when we give out an award for we can get the word out.

### 4. Rotary Clock Landscape Project

Ms. Hughes discussed that her contact with Rotary did not know who the contact is to see if they could help fund the project. Mr. Lincolnhol stated he sent out an email today to his contact and is waiting to hear back. Mr. Parrilla stated that he is waiting to hear back on the request he sent to the City Attorney's office to see if the board is allowed to set up a GoFundMe for some of the beautification projects.

### 5. Other Business

Mr. Parrilla discussed the Arbor Day projects that Parks will be doing at Raymond V. Pottorf School, STARS Complex, and Beecher Village.

Ms. Hughes discussed the prior meeting where Gina from the Historical Preservation Committee spoke about McGregor Boulevard and wanting to get the word out about not planting other trees that would interfere with the historical part of McGregor. Ms. Hughes asked if anything has been done about the trees that are a problem. Mr. Parrilla said there were close to 100 palms on McGregor that were affected by the hurricane, and we are eventually going to replace them. Mr. Parrilla discussed Palm Beach Boulevard needing addressed due to the water washing away the landscape.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, it was moved by Committee member Smith; seconded by Committee member Stoneman; to adjourn the meeting at 4:44 p.m.