

City Beautiful Commission Meeting Minutes

July 16th, 2024

1:30 PM Neighborhood Services Office

Members: Gayle Fisher, Bubba Earnhart, Stephen Hart, Betsy Davies, Susan Langley

Staff: Beau Cooper, Neighborhood Services

The meeting came to order at 1:30 p.m. and a quorum was present.

An application from the Argenta Downtown Council (ADC) was discussed. They are requesting a total of \$9060.30. The application proposed buying 22,000 tulips and 3,600 violets. These will be planted throughout the downtown Argenta area and will be maintained by the ADC. These plants help ADC meet their their goals of “keeping Argenta safe, clean, green, and inviting.” Bubba Earnhart made a motion to approve the grant for \$9060.30 and Susan Langley seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

The Council discussed the improvements at the Dark Hollow community garden. Gayle Fisher informed the council that she had ridden around town with Mayor Hartwick and they had discussed some specific places in the city that could use beautifying and how CB could perhaps help.

Gayle Fisher brought up the idea of placing additional litter signs around the city. The Commission discussed the idea. It was decided that the signs should list fines for littering and a number to call to report littering. There was a question about the effectiveness of these signs and Stephen Hart made the point that the only way to get people to not litter is to fine them for the act. Other members brought up the point that there needs to be educational components as well, teaching people, especially children and young people to take pride in their communities. It was also suggested that the NLRPD should be encouraged to enforce littering fines.

Gayle Fisher asked the Commission to consider the mission of the group and encouraged discussion of how the group can fulfill that mission. Stephen Hart

suggested that more neighborhoods should form homeowner's associations or similarly structured groups to help enforce anti-littering and beautification efforts. Some of the issues discussed with having city-wide beautification plans were who will do the physical work of creating and maintaining the projects and enforcing the projects equally across the city.

Gayle Fisher encouraged all members to look for projects in their neighborhoods and wards that could apply for the remainder of the Commission's funds for the year. Improving the landscaping at various schools across the city was suggested.

It was agreed that it would be beneficial to invite Code Director Felecia McHenry to the next meeting. The next meeting date is to be determined when the Commission receives another application.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Beginning Balance:	\$ 17,614
ADC Application	<u>- 9,060.30</u>
Remaining Balance	\$ 8,553.7