

INDIAN SHORES

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Gulf Blvd. Beautification Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes **Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 1:00 P.M.**

The Gulf Boulevard Beautification (Planting) Ad-Hoc Committee convened at 1:05 p.m. Those present were: Councilor Mike Hackerson, Nick Menchise, Claudia Riva, Art Newsome, Tom King and Darlyn Stockfish.

1.0 Approval of Agenda for February 20, 2018

Motion by Art Newsome – seconded by Nick Menchise to approve the agenda for February 20, 2018. Motion carried 5–0.

2.0 Public Comments on any Agenda Item

There were no comments.

3.0 Approval of Minutes of January 23, 2018

Tom King mentioned that his name was missing from the list of those present at the January 23, 2018 meeting.

Motion by Tom King – seconded by Art Newsome to approve the January 23, 2018, minutes with the addition of Tom King being listed under “those present” which changes the number of the votes. Motion carried 5–0.

4.0 Update on Status of Beautification

Councilor Hackerson informed the Committee that we are close to the end of the project and working on the last plantings. All the irrigation is in at the boat ramp, and we are finishing up the plantings at Holiday Villas III.

Councilor Hackerson explained that the palm trees would go in this week at The Pub, and then focus would be on finishing the boat ramp and then up to Tiki Gardens. The goal is to have all the planting completed by the end of the

Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

Diantha Schear
Vice Mayor

Mike Hackerson
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau
Town Administrator

Terry E. Hughes
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam
Director of Finance
and Personnel

Stephanie V. Waters
Town Clerk

Gregory Yantorno
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney

month so the parking lot is clear for our St. Patrick's Day Festival and the ongoing Sunday Morning Market.

Councilor Hackerson clarified that for invoicing purposes, we are keeping close track of all the plants and being very conscientious of our costs for invoicing purposes.

Councilor Hackerson further explained that we are in good shape financially. As of now, we have invoiced \$939,000+ which leaves us with a little over \$134,000 of budget left out of the initial \$1,074,000. We have a little headroom because of the additional funds we got from FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation). We have \$107,000 remaining from Penny money and are keeping about \$400,000 for the monument as part of our agreement. We are being careful to stay within our buying plan so that we can complete everything. We currently have about \$104,000 left to invoice which includes the cost for maintenance for one year.

Councilor Hackerson reported we are getting a lot of compliments on the looks of Gulf Boulevard. If you drive north now the Jatrophas have bloomed red. Some of the Desert Senna weren't doing well but Ameriscape is going back to the supplier to get them replaced. They will identify by "pink ribbon" any of the plantings that look to be dead and in need of replacement.

5.0 Penny 4 Update

Councilor Hackerson conveyed that the new "Penny" funds are scheduled to come in 2020. The Big-C Mayors are asking to get an agreement with Pinellas County to pull some of the Penny money forward to use now.

Councilor Hackerson further explained that if we get early access to those monies, we will reorganize the GBB team volunteers and proceed with working on those few properties that have not yet been encompassed into the Beautification Program. We won't proceed with getting easements until we know more. The Big-C is scheduled to meet later in the month.

6.0 Ameriscape Maintenance Plan

Councilor Hackerson explained that we are in the one-year Maintenance Phase now. They are spraying for weeds, etc., and the maintenance will continue through the end of 2018. After that per Town Ordinance, the owners will take up maintenance of their rights-of-way. However, with the irrigation that has been put in, this should require only minimal work.

Claudia Riva mentioned that some of the flowers have died for example by Coldwell Banker/Sun Vista.

Councilor Hackerson informed that those types of flowers bloom a couple of times a year so they will come back into bloom.

7.0 Open Discussion

Nick Menchise inquired as to how to handle those property owners that are now requesting to be involved in the Beautification Project.

Councilor Hackerson instructed the team to keep track of their contact information for inclusion in the next phase. Also, to send that information to Bill Jones as a point of contact.

Claudia Riva asked whether the Town keeps a list of new condominium officers.

Councilor Hackerson answered that we do not keep such a list. To research new officers, we go into "Sunbiz" (Florida Department of State's Division of Corporations) to find out the officers/owners or we contact the old members for the information.

Claudia Riva said that some cities have annual mini workshops for the presidents of the associations giving them information about what they should be aware of within the Town. This might be something we should pursue.

Councilor Hackerson said he will mention this to Mayor Soranno.

8.0 Set Time and Date for Next Meeting and Celebration

Councilor Hackerson stated that we won't set the next meeting date yet but want to include a team celebration. We would recognize Ameriscape and Jonathon Toner at an upcoming Town Council meeting and have as many volunteers there as possible for recognition. We might also have a cookout and beach day for the Ameriscape planting crew, etc.

Councilor Hackerson reported that the power is almost completed for the seasonal lighting of the palm trees, and that he will inquire as to how long the boards bracing them need to stay up.

Councilor Hackerson thanked everyone for their assistance with this project.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.


Darlyn A. Stockfisch
Administrative Specialist