

MINUTES OF MEETING
BEAUTIFICATION BOARD
January 8, 2009

Present for the meeting:

Judy Smith, Carolyn Brown, Jimmie VanValkenburgh, Rodney Powell, Evelyn Sanders, Jean Moreland, Carolyn Doughty, Mark Acreman, Cliff Collings, Steve Garman

Judy Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes of the December 4, 2008 meeting were approved as written by a motion from Rodney Powell, seconded by Jean Moreland. Motion carried.

Carolyn Doughty introduced Steve Garman, the new City Administrator of Gulf Shores. He thanked the board for all the work they do and wanted the board know that he will be glad to help with any future projects.

Judy Smith advised the board that the growth award was finished and mailed! She thanked Janice Childress for all her help.

Mark Acreman told the board that Steve Waters was no longer with the city. He accepted a job in Mississippi. Cliff Collings will be acting superintendent. We all welcomed him.

The Arbor Day update was given by Jimmie VanValkenburgh. She reported that she has been working with Cheryl Searcy, a 5th grade teacher at Gulf Shores Elementary School, on the poster contest – the theme is “Trees are Terrific in Cities and Towns”. We will judge the posters at the February 5th board meeting. Plans were made to plant a tree on Friday, February 27th at the school. Jimmie and Evelyn Sanders have reviewed the site for Arbor Day and have a layout for tables, booths and tree boards. They will be working with Cliff Collings. Rodney Powell is working on the flyers and notification to the papers.

Evelyn Sanders asked the board members to be on the lookout for a spring business for the Beautification Award that will be presented in April. Bring any ideas to the February meeting.

Judy Smith asked Carolyn Doughty and Steve Garman for help with the Revised Request List from the board. This list is attached to the minutes of the November 6th meeting. We know that everything cannot be accomplished with today’s economic situation but there are some items that need to be addressed now. We really need to take a look at the welcome signs at city entrances and the property on Highway 59 in front of the airport. Steve Garman told the board that he would look into these things. Carolyn Doughty suggested that the board present this request to the council at one of the meetings.

Judy said that the city proclamation for Arbor Day will be presented at the January 26th meeting. She asked all board members to attend this meeting and we will present the request list to the council at that time.

Mark Acreman reported that the Sports Plex was finally finished and Little Lagoon Park boat launch was open and the landscaping for that project will begin shortly.

Carolyn Doughty told the board that the city was really busy working on a budget. This would be an ongoing project. They were still looking at all departments and ways to help with costs.

Evelyn Sanders wanted Carolyn Doughty and all present to know that the Christmas decorations were great. She is certain that everyone appreciated them. Judy Smith asked Mark Acreman to keep in mind the reworking of the decorations on the north side of the bridge. They have some of the "old" type lights and need updating as money allows.

Judy Smith told the board that the city of Prattville has invited everyone to come to Prattville on February 21st and help replant trees that were destroyed in the storm. Carolyn Doughty suggested we all go together on one of the city buses. She will check on it and Judy will get more information from Prattville.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jean Moreland, seconded by Evelyn Sanders.

Next meeting will be February 5th, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted by
Carolyn Brown, Secretary