

**Town of Mt. Airy
Beautification Commission Meeting
Via Zoom
January 19, 2021**

In Attendance: Tina Swanson (Chair), Dick Heiger, Doris Wilcher, Beverly Blatchford, Karl Munder, Ashley Collier

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Approval of Minutes: November minutes were approved as modified.

Chairman's Comments:

- Tina Swanson congratulated Beverly Blatchford for being named 2020 Volunteer of the Year.

Councilman's Report:

- Karl Munder reported that the council budgeted \$500,000 for a matching grant for the Center Street expansion.
- The town's investment policy was also updated.
- The council plans to have a public hearing on the Harrison Leishear annexation in March.

Communication and Events Director Report:

- Ashley Collier reported that the final purchase agreement for land west of Main Street for Rails to Trails was signed.
- The purchase of exercise equipment for Wildwood Park was decided against. The funds will be used elsewhere. Tina Swanson suggested that swings were needed in that park.

Unfinished Business:

- Tina Swanson reported that we took down the holiday decorations in Wildwood Park and in town. Dick Heiger reported that he fixed the string of lights at the gazebo which had stopped working and that he stored the decorations for the gazebo. Beverly Blatchford noted that a wreath was still on the caboose and that the extension cords and timer were probably still there. Tina said she would get the wreath when she puts the bins in storage and would notify Larry Hushour about the cords and timer.
- All the 2020 town holiday ornaments were sold for a gross of \$6746.09. Some of the 2017 and 2018 ornaments were also sold.
- Tina Swanson reported that she has ordered benches for the dog park as well as a picnic table for Vest Pocket Park and trash cans. She said that Brian Johnson does not need any more trash cans.

- Tina Swanson, Doris Wilcher, and Beverly Blatchford donated cookies to the maintenance staff before Christmas as a thank you for their assistance during the year.
- Dick Heiger reported that he started pruning the rose bushes in Vest Pocket Park but did not finish due to the cold weather. He noted that one of the trees has the top blown out and will need to be pruned or replaced. Another of the trees is also not doing well. Beverly Blatchford suggested that since the garden club originally planted the trees in Vest Pocket maybe they would want to replace them.

New Business:

- The commission voted on a budget of \$11,000 for the next fiscal year.
- We will finish necessary pruning when the temperatures reach 50 degrees.

Next meeting is February 16 at 7:00 via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Beverly Blatchford, Secretary