

Town of Mt. Airy
Beautification Commission Meeting
January 21, 2020

In Attendance: Tina Swanson (Chair), Dwight Mullinix, Dick Heiger, 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 written.

Chairman's Comments:

- Tina thanked everyone for decorating and un-decorating our Downtown and Vest Pocket and Wildwood parks.

Councilman's Report:

- Karl reported that several ordinances were scheduled for the February meeting. One of them concerns the transfer of town property to ensure there is enough room for Chic Fil A to have a drive-through. We questioned whether trees would need to be removed and whether they would be replaced with trees planted elsewhere.

Communication and Events Director Report:

- Ashley reported that two scouts made presentations at the parks commission. One was for an additional dugout in Watkins Park and the other for no smoking signs.
- Tina suggested that a future scout project could be improving the area that Tim Richards created in Wildwood.
- Ashley said that the Sustainability group will be labeling trees in Windy Ridge Park and creating a community garden in Rising Ridge. Tina said that they should coordinate with our commission.

Unfinished Business:

- Tina reported that all but four of the town Christmas ornaments were sold. The Historical Society took 50 ornaments to sell.
- Dick said that the Summit Ridge pavilion, table, and benches look great.
- Ashley said she will start working to remove invasive species from Windy Ridge Park.
- Brian is still planning to install a fountain in the butterfly garden at Wildwood Park. We will need to move all the plants from there before he does.
- Ashley said that she is thinking about installing some exercise equipment at Wildwood Park.
- Dick said he would trim the rose bushes around the gazebo in Vest Pocket Park.

New Business:

- Tina reported that we currently have \$9276.25 left in the budget for this year. We plan to purchase another swing and bench for Wildwood Park, five trashcans, and a swing for Rails to Trails.
- We decided on a budget for 2020 of \$13000 with \$4000 for amenities, \$4000 for holiday décor, \$2000 for mulch, compost, and stone, and \$3000 for plants.
- We plan to replace dying trees in Watkins Park with some natives. We will be adding native trees to many of our parks.
- Ashley said that several trees were removed on Center Street. She suggested that we plant zinnias in that area.

Next meeting is February 18.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Beverly Blatchford, Secretary