

Parks and Beautification Committee
July 24, 2007
17246 Van Gogh Street

Minutes

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mary Ellen Crosby at 7:20pm. Present were members Carol Escalente, Donna Zero, Mary Edwards, Barbara Iverson and Mary Ellen Crosby.
2. Minutes from the June 20, 2007 meeting were approved with the correction of adding the location of the meeting (Van Gogh Street School) to the minutes. Motion to approve was made by Donna Zero.
3. Public Comment on non-agenda items- comment was made about the use of pesticides that are used by the city to eradicate squirrels and gophers. It was recommended that Friends of the Park find out what chemicals are being used and what is the City's public notification policy when these chemicals are used. Mary Ellen Crosby offered to call Ron Berkowitz (Parks Dept.) to try and get that information
4. Nidia and Christie from North East Trees made a presentation on what their organization is doing to assist in the planting and maintaining of trees under the umbrella of the mayor's One Million Trees initiative. They are a non-profit organization which has been around for 16 years. They offer a service that will plant, water, mulch, weed and trim trees for a set fee. (See attached budget analysis). *A motion was made by Donna Zero on behalf of the Parks and Beautification Committee to "recommend that the GHNNC consider the proposal made by North East Trees to have up to 100 trees planted at a cost up to \$12,000 which includes planting, watering, mulching and weeding for one year." Motion was seconded by Mary Edwards. The vote was 4 yes, 1 no.*
5. Pocket Parks- Nidia from North East Trees is going to have a landscaper architect sketch out some plans for the two pocket parks. The plan is to write a Community Beautification Grant which will contribute up to \$10,000 for the project. Before that can be done, we need to find out who own those properties and if they are willing to allow improvements to be made. Carol Escalente offered to call to try and get that information.
6. Wildflower Update- It was stated by Mary Ellen Crosby that the wildflower seeds were not planted properly. Apparently they were scattered on top the weeds that had been cut without the soil being overturned. In addition the poppy seeds that were scattered did not germinate because of lack of water. Discussion on possible vote on a letter to RAP and Council regarding maintenance was tabled until the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Minutes recorded by Donna Zero