

MINUTES
LAWTON ENHANCEMENT TRUST AUTHORITY
NEW CITY HALL AUDITORIUM
212 SW 9th STREET
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

Jay Burk, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the New City Hall 3rd Floor Conference Room. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Burk, Jay; Ezerski, Barry; Godlove, Jane; Hankins, Mary Ann; Harbison, Jean; Safi, Anika; Smith, Addie; Smith, Marilyn; Sweeney, Kerry.

ABSENT: Bellino, Rose Mary; Dismuke, Bob.

OTHER PRESENT: Denise Ezell, City Clerk's Office, Dennis Totte, Bedrock Nursery.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Reports

A. Receive report from Kim Shahan, Parks and Recreation Director

Burk stated Shahan is unable to be with us today. We do have Dennis Totte of Bedrock nursery with us. He is the new contractor and he will be meeting with us every month. Each member is responsible for overseeing certain beds within the 21 sites. We would like for you to bring any recommendation you might have in regards to upgrades and so forth. The contract is for the maintenance of the beds and maintenance and repair of the sprinklers. If there is a major break you will need to contact Shahan and then he will bring it before this committee to see if they will authorize the repair. If it is an emergency the authority has given me the authorization to make a decision.

Totte stated I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity of being your contractor. We are excited about this opportunity. Lawton is my home and we are going to take great pride to go above and beyond in making these areas look as good as possible. We have done the first time cleanup and a lot of them were behind. It isn't perfect yet but we are working on them. I will bring you reports about replacement, what is dead and the areas I believe we can improve over time. There is a lot to this but we will get a grip on it.

Burk stated he has gone by the pots on 2nd Street and cleaned them out. Does the sprinkler work.

Totte stated we haven't checked them at this time. We got some mixed information from Keith Neitzke. He stated we didn't need to attend this meeting and then Burk called and stated we did. It was my understanding that we were to report to him. Once we get everything lined out I'll get back with you now that I understand how it works.

Smith M asked is it necessary to plant there before the buildings are there.

Burk stated I think it looks horrible sitting there empty. The beds have dead crape myrtles. We are trying to reinvent that area and it looks as if we have abandoned it. I don't want to go back with what was previously planted. Part of the problem was the contractor cut the sprinkler but is it supposed to be fixed.

Totte stated Huck has shown us where all the control valves are.

Smith M asked are the pots big enough for a tree.

Totte stated my idea is something that stays green all year around. Maybe a cone boxwood or Nelly Holly in the middle pot with a trailer and color in the pots on either side. I'll bring an estimate to the next meeting.

Burk stated does anyone have a Ward update to share with Totte. I did notice some of the beds were bad but you have taken care of them.

Totte stated we learn something new every week. There were areas at McMahon that initially we weren't a part of. We met with the lady from McMahon, Neitzke and Shahan and now have it worked out. Teen Challenge, an employee of McMahon and us all take care of different parts. Now I know what we are responsible for. When we made our bid there wasn't a master list of locations. There was only a check list that stated if there were bed and if the bed had sprinkler or not. If we miss something bring it to our attention and we will take care of it.

Hankins asked who does the mowing on Rogers Lane. It is looking pretty rough.

Burk stated Teen Challenge. The contract money was cut during the budget and they don't mow as often as they use to.

Ezerski stated sprigs come into the road because they don't edge.

Burk stated I made that comment to Teen Challenge and Shahan. There should be no growth over the edge into the road in areas where we pay a contractor. This was a \$200,000 budget and it was but by \$80,000.

Godlove stated we have also received rain this year.

Burk stated correct. I hope that next year we can fix the problem. Is there anything else for Totte. If not thank you for being here and we will see you at the next meeting.

B. Receive report from Public Relations Committee

Safi stated there is an article on the skate park in the O.K.I.E. magazine. The park has received a \$1000 donation. Once the Tony Hawk Foundation opens up their grant period we will be applying for the grant.

Burk stated the cost of the park will run from \$600,000 to \$800,000.

Godlove stated it would be nice if we had some publicity on the radio that displays who we are and what we are about. I have a friend who has done publicity professionally volunteer to help us with some PSA's. She also suggested doing a billboard. I told her I would ask if this was something we were interested in pursuing. If so she is ready to go. She did asked that we write down a 3 or 4 word slogan you think might be appropriate to describe our purpose and mission. She would put something together and bring back to you for your approval.

Burk stated wonderful.

Safi stated I have Mrs. Bennett who was the July Yard of the Month winner with me today. She would like to express her appreciation to the Authority.

Bennett stated thank you for the award. This award was not for me but for my husband. He had a stroke 5 years ago and was paralyzed. He is now at the VA center. When I went to visit the day the article was in the newspaper they had collected about 20 copies for us. He was so excited and squeezed by hand so hard because he was so proud. I just want to say thank you for that.

Godlove stated you are very welcome and we are very pleased to have you with us.

C. Monthly Ward Update

Burk asked is there anything that we need to discuss. (There was none)

C. Treasurer Report

Burk stated we collected some hotel/motel funds this last month in the amount of \$11,485.20. Also we collected May and June court fees of \$11,065.50. We had expenditures of \$600.00 to Bedrock for the yard of the month winners.

Sweeney asked how are the certificates being delivered.

Burk stated we are mailing them with a letter that explains this award and how this qualifies them for Yard of the Year at our annual banquet.

Sweeney stated great.

Ezerski asked could we get something on Channel 7 like a Yard of the Month segment. We need to talk to David and Jan.

Burk stated I was going to ask Ezerski if he would be interested in serving on the Public Relations Committee. It needs to be someone who has connections.

Godlove stated we need to tell the community when someone has won Yard of the Month.

Smith M stated the newspaper has done a nice job.

Burk asked I think we need to put an ad in the paper where citizens can nominate yards.

Safi stated there are also a lot of back yards that are beautiful. Maybe we could do something like Backyard Oasis where we had nominations on backyards.

Burk stated I think we need to get the public involved.

Ezerski asked do we have Facebook.

Burk stated no.

Ezerski stated that is the way to get the word out.

Burk stated if someone knows how to get it started you are more than welcome to do so. I'm not a Facebook guru.

Smith A stated another free avenue is on Sunday mornings at 6:30 a.m.

Burk stated This Week In Texhoma.

Smith M asked how many will watch a 6:30 a.m. show.

Sweeney stated when they did the cardiologist we were surprised at the number of patients that came into my husband's office and stated they had seen him on TV.

Godlove stated the PSA's are free so we need to take advantage of that opportunity.

Burk asked would you like to be on the Public Relations Committee.

Ezerski stated sure.

Burk stated okay is there any questions about the Treasurer's Report. We actually have a bank balance of \$132,209.93 with a LETA balance of \$100,448.67.

Smith M asked was our revenues in question at the meeting last night.

Burk stated no. Bellino is on that committee and she will make certain our revenues are safe. Also there were 840 high grass citations written last month. We will see \$4.50 from every ticket paid.

Sweeney asked are we non-profit.

Burks stated yes.

Ezerski stated it all works hand in hand. Once the convention center is finished and we have people coming in to fill our hotels that will help us, the chamber and the City of Lawton. It helps everybody.

Motion by Godlove, Second by Sweeney, to accept the treasurers report. **Aye:** Burk; Ezerski; Godlove; Hankins; Harbison; Safi; Smith A.; Smith M; Sweeney. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

D. Receive report from Website Committee

Burk stated we don't have a report today.

2. New Business

A. Approve minutes of August 14, 2013.

Motion by Smith M, Second by Smith A, approve minutes of August 14, 2013 as written. **Aye:** Godlove; Hankins; Harbison; Safi; Smith A.; Smith M; Sweeney; Burk; Ezerski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

B. Nominate and award Yard Of The Month.

Burk stated I believe both our winners have been really excited. This is a good thing. Okay our nominees today are:

38th and Euclid
4010 Meadowbrook
4634 Meadowbrook
1602 NW 50th Street
4810 Ozmun
3010 NE Pioneer Blvd.
#8 NW 58th Street
4134 Currel Drive
#11 NW 58th Street
810 Arlington
1115 Lake Avenue
17th & I Avenue
1301 SW Monroe
1310 SW 8th Street
1401 SW Pennsylvania

Burk stated lets narrow it down to the top 3.

Sweeney stated I think 1115 Lake Avenue and 4010 Meadowbrook.

Ezerski stated I also like 38th & Euclid.

Burk stated I like 4810 Ozmun. All those in favor of Ozmun. (There was a show of 2 hands). Those in favor of 1115 NW Lake Avenue. (There was a show of 7 hands). Okay it appears NW Lake Avenue is your winner.

C. Discuss and nominate Commercial Eye Candy Awards and take action if necessary.

Burk stated I would like to set a special meeting in 2 weeks to do nothing but the banquet awards. If you will turn your nominees into Ezell we will have our photographer take pictures and bring them back for you to vote on. You need to be thinking of people you would like to nominate for the top 3 awards. Think about those who have helped to enhance our community.

Sweeney stated I'm uncertain about the 82nd Street Lawton Market Place.

Ezerski stated I would say the developers of that area should awarded. That one project is probably the biggest thing that has happened to Lawton in years.

Godlove asked when are we going to start planning the banquet. I believe we need to start now.

Burk stated soon. Max Sasseen has volunteered to do the video presentation.

Godlove stated I would like to consider hiring somebody to direct our decorations. We did it last year without a plan and that was tough.

Burk asked do you know of someone.

Godlove stated yes. I'll see if she would be willing to do something.

Burk stated I would like to ask Godlove and Sweeney if you would be willing to serve on the banquet committee. We will check out the food and into hiring someone for the decorations.

Godlove stated yes.

Sweeney stated yes. What is the date.

Burk stated the first Thursday in December. Sasseen and I have discussed changing things around this year. We will need someone to be in charge or proofreading and ordering the awards.

Safi stated I will help with that.

Harbison stated I will also.

Burk stated give your pictures and addresses to Ezell so we can get it organized. We will meet on the 2nd of October to vote and talk about winners. If you cannot be here on that date we will email you a ballot so that you can vote.

Godlove stated for nominees of the top 3 awards we haven't done a good job of presenting information as to why those people should be awarded. We have chosen good people but I think it would be helpful if we nominated someone to have a list of things that qualifies that person. We shouldn't give an award unless the person is deserving.

Burk stated if you think of someone email Ezell so we can compile a list of everyone. If we have any questions we will call you.

3. Old Business

None

4. Announcements

5. Adjournment

Burk stated thank you for being here. We are adjourned.