

Committee Members:

Chairperson

Luci Snowden, Citizen
Term: 2018-2020

Vice Chairperson

Brian Dehnert, Citizen
Term: 2019-2021

Laurie Leingang, Citizen
Term: 2017-2019

Crystal Tretbar, Citizen
Term: 2019-2021

Jody Skogen, Citizen
Term: 2017-2019

Kelsey Huber, Citizen
Term: 2018-2020

Jim Neubauer, Administration

Shawn Ouradnik, Building
Official

Ellen Huber, Business
Development & Communications

Keith Johnson, Custer Health

Justin Froseth, Planning &
Engineering

Candy Fleck, Code Enforcement
Officer / Police

Mitch Bitz, Public Works

Liaisons:

John Van Dyke, City Planner

Kari Moore, Program
Coordinator

Katie Nagel, Arborist

Mandan Community Beautification Committee

Thursday, April 11, 2019

7:30 a.m.

Veterans' Conference Room

Mandan City Hall, 205 Second Avenue NW

MINUTES

A. Introductions

Dehnert called the meeting to order. Members present are indicated by a . Also in attendance were Deputy Chief Lori Flaten, Commissioner Dennis Rohr and Maria Walen.

B. Consider minutes from Mar. 14, 2019 meeting

Leingang moved to approve the March 14, 2019 minutes. Neubauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Suggestions from Commissioner Rohr

Commissioner Rohr was interested in the process of identifying areas of concern from a code enforcement perspective. Flaten explained Fleck addresses complaints received via phone or the Report A Concern section of the www.cityofmandan.com website and also identifies areas on her own. Fleck said she tries to be proactive but tends to get a lot of complaints from residents. When she receives a complaint in one area, she tries to hit on everything in the area, not just the item the complaint is on.

Flaten added having the code enforcement officer position has helped a lot and that Fleck works really well with Building Inspection office and City Planner on identifying issues. Ouradnik agreed that Fleck is doing a great job.

Rohr questioned if the ordinances in place are allowing Fleck to address everything. Flaten stated there are some things that will need to be addressed in future ordinances.

D. Discuss Leadership Bismarck Mandan Class of 2019 Mandan Flowers beautification project

Walen provided the committee with an update on the Mandan Flowers project. The Chamber Leadership team is moving forward with the area of 6th Ave NW to Collins Avenue on both sides of Main Street. Cashman's Nursery has agreed to partner with the project as well as provide storage for the flowers during the winter months. Neubauer stated

if the City provides funds for the project, then he would be more comfortable with the City taking care of storing the flowers.

The current budget for the project is \$27,286. Walen stated they have received two sponsorships for the program so far. The team has went door to door asking for sponsorships and Walen reached out to her business contacts for sponsorships. Huber said she could provide the team with a list of business contacts to send letters to.

If the team is able to secure \$17,000 in funding by April 19, then the project will proceed for 2019 implementation. If the team can't secure \$17,000 in funding by April 19, then the team will push the project to begin in 2020. Skogen stated the project needs a "wow" factor in the first year to keep donations coming in for the next year and years following.

The hanging baskets are \$17,000 and the flowers and dirt is another \$10,000. The team would like to also raise \$8,000 for the second year of the program as well.

The NDSU Extension master gardener has agreed to maintain the flowers for three years, but doesn't have a watering truck. The team is reaching out to HIT to see if they can help with a truck for watering.

Walen stated the hanging baskets weight about 60-70 pounds filled due to the water reservoir in the bottom of them. The planters are about 32-inches long and have a 30 gallon water reservoir in them as well. The team plans to implement hanging baskets first and if the money is available to put out planters they will come next. Neubauer stated some concerns about the type and location of the brackets for the hanging baskets. Walen will meet with Bitz on the brackets and the weight of the hanging baskets on the pole.

Walen stated the team decided to not apply for the AARP grant because they don't believe the project meets the grant requirements. She added that if the project is not implemented until 2020, there are at least two team members that are willing to see it through.

E. Discuss Community Clean-up Day

Huber reported registration has really picked up in the last week. She also said there may be enough bags for two years thanks to Keep North Dakota Clean and Scuba One. New this year, the first 250 volunteers will receive bright colored t-shirts and vests will be for route leaders. Amy Schmidt has been able to secure door prizes and they keep coming in. The event has been advertised on Facebook, in the Mandan Messenger and Leingang submitted information to Mandan Public Schools Bulletin Board newsletter. Huber reported Bismarck Kiwanis have decided to take on a clean-up day in Bismarck on May 4, which is Mandan's rain-out date.

Bitz reported there are 6 or 7 clean-up day routes being discussed. His department will go out Friday before the event to pick up big items along the routes.

F. Update on projects

- a. Update on tree planting grant (Nagel)

- i. E. Main Street
- ii. E. Memorial Hwy
- iii. W. Memorial Hwy

Nagel reported that West Memorial Highway is off the list due to the upcoming construction, and that East Memorial Highway is not eligible for grant monies because it has to be on city owned and maintained property. She hopes to submit the tree-planting grant application this week. The application is for five evergreens and six crab trees. Nagel selected a species of evergreens that will not grow taller than 25-30 feet and therefore will not block the line of sight for the billboard in the area. Nagel expects to hear back on the grant status by the end of June or early July. If awarded, the trees can be planted in the fall.

G. Other Status Reports

Bobcat will be volunteering at the library on April 25 to clean up the landscaping around the library and parking lot. Dehnert said they received enough interest to work four major projects and split the volunteer event into two days this year.

Leingang questioned the use of benches as beautification elements as discussion begins on the Main Street reallocation project. Flaten said benches aren't necessarily a bad idea but that problems can arise depending on where they are placed. Huber added the Destination Development Association recommends benches be located outside businesses versus near an intersection. There is a public input meeting on April 25 at Harvest Events & Catering from 6-8 p.m. to discuss proposed improvements to Main Street.

Dehnert asked about the next gateway area to start looking at. Nagel stated the southwest quadrant of Sunset near I94, Boundary Rd and connecting to 6th Ave NW has been discussed. Huber stated it's probably not a great time to approach the property owner in the area about partnering up with the City to do something in that area. Nagel said something needs to be done in the area, but we could be limited on what specifically can go in that area.

Discussion took place about cleaning up around the railroad near Burger King to get dead trees and weeds removed. Nagel is willing to help clean up in the area, and had offered in the past but the contact person was leaving the country and no other contact person was identified. Neubauer will find a contact at BNSF to ask about cleaning up the area.

Froseth met with the gentleman wanting to put up a flag pole by the electronic message center. He would like to put it behind the sign, but is going to get back with Froseth on the specifics. The flag pole will need to be placed far enough from the sign to allow for clearance for work or repairs on the sign. NDDOT has approved the flag pole in that location. The Veterans' group has raised about \$6,000 for the flag and pole so far.

H. Future Meetings

- a. Thursday, June 13, 2019 (7:30 a.m.)
- b. Thursday, August 8, 2019 (7:30 a.m.)

I. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.