

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTH GULF COVE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 29, 2011
9:00 a.m.

Attendees: Barbara Hundley, Kendall Leach, Karen Price, Ann Yee, Alice Minich
Absent – Pat Gratz
County – Tara Musselman, David Milligan, Holly Shackelford

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Minutes: The Committee reviewed minutes from December 29, 2010, and March 3, 2011, and approved both as submitted.

Old Business:

- Ms. Musselman is still waiting for additional information about the reassignment of Committee members through internal action.
- The Committee reviewed the Quarterly Status Report. Mr. Leach inquired whether the contract for mangrove trimming could be renewed for the remainder of the permit already in effect. Mr. Milligan advised that the work being done could be performed without a permit. Ms. Musselman said any work with a cost greater than \$5,000 will require obtaining requests for quotation. Mr. Milligan added that commencing trimming activities now would cause a flush of growth immediately following the trimming but, in the past, we have done annual trimming in Spring and early Summer. After a short discussion, Ms. Minich made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yee and approved by the Committee, to have trimming commence closer to October.
- The Committee reviewed the FY12 proposed budget. Ms. Minich noted that the \$25,000 for Phase II needs to be removed, as it was decided at a previous meeting that those funds would be pushed forward to FY13. After a short discussion, the Committee decided to leave the \$25,000 for Phase II in the FY12 budget, in case there is an opportunity to begin work ahead of schedule. Ms. Musselman advised that the contract for specialty mowing would be reorganized to include all of South Gulf Cove and placed under the management of Mr. Milligan and Facilities Management. Mr. Leach requested that those involved in the contract process remember that the \$75,000 allocation is just an estimate. Ms. Musselman advised that any final adjustments to the FY12 budget must be submitted this week. Mr. Leach made a motion to approve the budget as presented, which was seconded by Ms. Yee and unanimously approved.
- Mr. Milligan advised that the plans for San Domingo Park have not changed. He added that the permitting process should be finished soon, and direct irrigation will be included in the plans. Mr. Leach expressed concern that the Committee remain completely involved in all phases of the project and added that there have been several instances where projected costs were more than actual costs. Mr. Milligan advised that either he or Roger Warner will be available at the April meeting to offer further updates about the project's progression.
- Ms. Musselman is still waiting for the SWFMUD permit for the Linear Park/Learning Garden.
- Ms. Price expressed concern about cars driving on the park grounds to the waterfront. The Committee explored options for preventing traffic through the park, and Ms. Musselman suggested installing red diamond signage. She will consult with the appropriate County staff to determine recommendations that would be effective without being unsightly.

- Ms. Price requested an update on palm tree replacement at the entrance signs. The contract ends in September, and she has received several phone calls from residents asking when the work will be done. Ms. Musselman advised that Mr. O'Connor is waiting until Spring to conduct additional evaluations of the viability of existing palm trees.
- Mr. Leach stated that the cost for pest control of the entrance signs should not be more than \$400.00 a year, if the same service for a 10,000 square foot vacant lot costs \$318.00 per year.
- The County Surveyor will be available to perform the boundary and topographical survey. Mr. Leach requested that he be advised when the Surveyor plans to conduct the survey because he would like to be on site. Ms. Price inquired about the process for having the zoning changed. Ms. Musselman will investigate whether a private non-profit like the CCT could enter into a contract with the County for plan development and improvements. This would be similar to the arrangement for the Learning Garden.

New Business:

- Ms. Price received a request to have pickleball installed at one of the parks. The cost to do so would be expensive, but there appears to be community interest.
- Ms. Yee advised that County staff has recommended development of a second Learning Garden in Punta Gorda. She raised concern that establishing awareness for the SGC Learning Garden can be difficult and that naming another outdoor attraction Learning Garden might confuse other residents. Ms. Shackelford said that changing the name of the still undevelopment garden in Punta Gorda would not be an issue.
- Ms. Slater commented that the zoning change should be relatively easy to accomplish. She has the bids and specifications for last year's mangrove trimming contract and agreed to forward a scanned copy to Ms. Slater. Ms. Slater conveyed residents' suggestions to install plantings around some bridges. She expressed her concern about both the Cove Connector and the SGC Beautification MSBU addressing issues related to beautification.
- Mr. Leach inquired whether the mangrove trimming contract could also include invasive plant chemical spraying. Ms. Musselman advised that the Committee could add it to the contract if desired.
- A citizen inquired whether a park design would be necessary to commence the clearing of Medina Park. Ms. Musselman responded that a park design is not yet necessary.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. in Murdock. Mr. Milligan and Mr. Warner will be in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara L. Musselman
Municipal Services District Representative

TLM:arw

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