



**CITY OF PACIFICA
BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 5, 2022
6:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:32 P.M. by Chair Melinda Moses

Members Present: Gail Bennett, Julie Gossage, Patty Hontalas, Linda Jonas, Melinda Moses, and Dan Wells

City Council Liaison: Mayor Sue Beckmeyer

PB&R Liaison: Commissioner Gail Benton Shoemaker

Staff Members: Lisa Petersen, Paul Lavorini and Michelle Trayer from Public Works

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 1, 2021, MEETING MINUTES: Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tree City Pacifica member Gail Benton Shoemaker asked to propose a small Arbor Day project for the committee's consideration. Every year, Tree City USA receives many requests from citizens interested in planting a tree on their property, and she asked if the committee would consider responding to these requests and advising people on where and what they want to plant. Tree City USA has a "How-to" video from the Sacramento Tree Foundation that can be shared with the citizens, and they are also working on their own video for their Arbor Day volunteers. Tree City USA starts publicizing, sometimes as early as September, so they start receiving inquiries one to two months before Arbor Day. Tree City Pacifica member Benton Shoemaker thought the BAC could take this opportunity to promote themselves and their programs, such as the Mayor's Award. She said Tree City USA believes trees increase property value in addition to combatting climate change, and she felt this tied into beautification and what the committee is trying to achieve. She asked if the members would consider putting this topic on a future agenda to discuss. Councilmember Beckmeyer kindly reminded the committee the topic should be agendaized if it was going to be a large discussion. Chairperson Moses made a note to do so for a future meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Billing planting site sponsors:** Chairperson Moses asked the members if there should be a designated committee member in charge of collecting sponsorship paperwork or if the task should be given to the BAC admin. It was decided for the time being, Chairperson Moses and Committee member Bennett will work together to collect all necessary sponsor documents and give to the BAC admin for processing and recording. The committee also decided once the documents are given to the sponsor, they will have thirty days to return the completed paperwork. Chairperson Moses asked the group to vote on the launch of the new Palmetto Ave. site adoption papers and invoicing. All were in favor to move forward with the process. Committee member Hontalas suggested a list of available planting spots should be posted on the committee's City website, as well as a list of the existing sponsors and their sites.

Councilmember Beckmeyer asked about the Rockaway Beach parking lot where people have been adding garden gnomes and other miscellaneous items. She wanted to know if there are any areas around the lot that can be developed into official planting spots. Field Services Manager Lavorini said the water has been shut off in that area, but it is an area that can be used. Councilmember Beckmeyer asked if the Old County Rd. area was a possibility, and Field Services Manager Lavorini said he would investigate it.

B. Crespi Bioswales: Chairperson Moses said she sent out photos of the bioswales to everyone in December. Committee member Gossage will generate a list of the plants that were installed so if the school children were going to create plant markers, the list would help with identification. She thought the bioswales looked great and appeared to be working correctly. Councilmember Beckmeyer noticed the sidewalk closest to Cabrillo School and the edge of the planter closet to the school is the low-point and flow-point. During the most recent heavy rain events, she noticed the mulch moving and rushing into the plants, so she tried her best to push the mulch away from them. Field Services Manager Lavorini mentioned they needed another one to two trucks loads of mulch to finish the bioswales and said Public Works needs to add more river rocks to keep the pipes from clogging with chips. Committee member Gossage said if this continues to be a problem, a larger and bulkier variety of mulch could be added. She also mentioned she tested the moisture meters and noted they should be easy for the school children to use once the rain subsides. Councilmember Beckmeyer said the children are certainly involved and interested in the project. Committee member Hontalas suggested monthly pictures of the bioswales to track the growth of the plants. Council member Beckmeyer said she would try and arrange this task with the school. Committee member Wells thought the pictures might also help the committee determine if the bioswales are functioning correctly as the months go by. Chairperson Moses asked if anyone knew the date of when the plants were installed. Council member Beckmeyer was able to determine December 15 and 16, 2021 as the planting dates. Committee member Hontalas asked if there was a way to test the site to see if it is filtering out impurities. Committee member Gossage said a soils test of the bioswale soil might give this information. Chairperson Moses asked Director Petersen to update the committee on the educational signs that were discussed in previous meetings. Director Petersen stated there is some money in the project for signage and asked the committee to think about what they wanted for the signs so the City could look into costs. Chairperson Moses asked who would be making the signs. Field Services Manager Lavorini said these specialty signs would need to be contracted out. Councilmember Beckmeyer said the City has a few good examples of a monument-style kiosk, noting one on the promenade by the Moonraker Restaurant that shows different whale species in the area, and the sign installed in front of the Community Center's Ohlone-Portolá mural. She thought both seemed durable and high-quality and said she would like to see some amount of form and style consistency throughout the City. Councilmember Beckmeyer also said she approached Council member Vaterlaus about the Cabrillo plot she had been interested in, shared with her the signage plan and budget, and asked if she would consider contributing towards the signage cost. She said Council member Vaterlaus seemed open to the idea and thought there would be other parties like the Cabrillo School PTO who may also be willing to participate. Chairperson Moses said she would take a picture of the whale sign at Rockaway Beach and thought it best to start with that design, settle on the language, then obtain a cost for the signage.

C. Mural Update: Chairperson Moses gave an update on the "Unity Project/Four Directions" mural at the Anza Pump Station artists. Jeffrey Wong, who also did the Ohlone-Portolá mural at the Community Center, deviated slightly from the original design, stating the existing electrical boxes and doors on the building were an issue. The subcommittee reminded Mr. Wong the boxes and doors were already present before the start of the project, and therefore no changes would be approved.

Mr. Wong was asked to keep with his original design and remove the changes he made. Field Services LAVORINI told the committee he would need to know at least one week in advance when the mural on the East Wall would begin because Public Works will be dealing with the Anza Pump Station repairs. He also told the group Public Works would ensure the area is safe for both the artists and beach visitors. Chairperson Moses told the committee the artists who just recently painted the "Splash of Color" mural on Oceana Blvd. are speaking with North Coast County Water District about installing a new art piece at the pump station near the Pedro Point Ace Hardware store. The area is owned by the North Coast County Water District and therefore will not need to be discussed with the Mural Subcommittee or the Beautification Advisory Committee. Council member clarified the City does not have jurisdiction over this public space and the mural discussions will go through the North Coast County Water District's own Executive Board.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. General Updates from Public Works:

Field Services Manager Paul LAVORINI addressed the large shrubs at the corner of Palmetto and Clarendon that need to be maintained and trimmed by the sponsors. He reiterated that the bioswales are working properly and Public Works is busy per usual. He also stated the City's new Parks Superintendent, Gino Assereto, will be starting later in the month. Mr. Assereto comes to the City with knowledge from San Francisco Public Works and is also a long-time resident of Pacifica. Lastly, he shared retired City of Pacifica Parks Superintendent Aren Clark will be returning part-time to assist the department. Chairperson Moses talked about the possibility of the Public Works Parks Department working in tandem with the Pacifica Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Department in the future for projects related to the BAC.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business for the next agenda was brought up. Councilmember Beckmeyer mentioned the December Council reorganization meeting went well and was excited to announce Mary Bier as the new Mayor. City Council will discuss rotating Council liaison positions at the upcoming January 10th meeting, which will still be held virtually. All City meetings will still be held virtually, at least until March. Councilmember Beckmeyer also shared that Mayor Bier is already stepping into her new role and has ideas about how to upgrade the Council Chambers meeting space. Mayor Bier would like to see a refresh of the dais and interior and would also like to add local art that would highlight the community. Councilmember Beckmeyer expressed her appreciation to the Public Works Department and acknowledged all their hard work. Commissioner Shoemaker wanted to add to her earlier public comment that residents who are interested in planting trees on their property purchase the trees themselves at cost, which are ordered by Public Works when the other Arbor Day trees are ordered.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Reminder to email, text, or call if not attending the meeting as it is important for quorum. Please review minutes and agenda before meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chair Moses closed the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

The next meeting of the Beautification Advisory Committee is scheduled for February 2, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. and is subject to change.