



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

**Wednesday, February 2, 2022
6:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:31 P.M. by Chair Melinda Moses

Members Present: Gail Bennett, Julie Gossage, Ryann Hoffman, 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 JANUARY 5, 2022, MEETING MINUTES: Approved with changes under the Public Comment section.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No members of the public present. Chairperson Moses noted a potential Adopt-A-Spot sponsor who is interested in a Rockaway Beach location might join the March BAC meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Pacifica Beautification Awards:** Chairperson Moses asked for an update on the program. Committee member Hontalas will update the flyer and meet with Committee member Hoffman to go over logistical items before the March meeting. Chairperson Moses asked if an explanation of the program and instructions about how to submit applications can be written as a refresher to the group, and for new members. Committee member Hontalas said she would take care of the task.
- B. Crespi Bioswales:** Chairperson Moses asked Committee member Gossage what she thought about the state of the plants and soil. Committee member Gossage visited the site and noted a few of the species were struggling more than others. She said the struggling plants may need more water to get started, may have had a fungus or disease that was not identified at their arrival, or they may be in a little bit of shock from the installation. Overall, she felt the site looked great and the mulch is helping to keep the weeds down a little. She was unsure what the actions were about replacing the plants and if that was covered in the landscaper's contract. She said there were a few species at the time of planting that were smaller, so she recommended additional plants be added to fill in the spaces. She also mentioned she dropped off the moisture meters to Cabrillo School earlier in the week and said it is time for the children to start on a watering schedule now that it is not raining. Chairperson Moses asked Public Works about extra plants. Director Petersen stated Field Services Manager Lavorini and Parks Superintendent Gino Assereto met with the contractor who installed the plants and identified sixteen plants that could be replaced.

She said the cost for the contractor to replace those plants was a little high, so she presented a few options to the BAC. One option would be for the BAC to determine what plants they wanted replaced, and Public Works could get a cost and pay for the plants. Regarding the reinstallation, she thought either the BAC or Cabrillo school children might take it on as a project. Field Services Manager Lavorini confirmed he and Parks Superintendent Assereto met with the contractor, and based on the plant information provided to them, reached out to a plant nursery, and requested an estimate. He said Public Works added two more truckloads of chips and will get more rocks if needed. Councilmember Beckmeyer said she noticed some regrowth after the rains uprooted some of the plants, but the leaves do not look very healthy. She mentioned the school children sufficiently watered the plants a week ago and over the weekend and will use the moisture meters Committee member Gossage dropped off to test the soil for dampness the following day.

- C. Palmetto sites-new plants:** Committee member Bennett reached out to the current Palmetto sponsors via email asking if they were interested in renewing their agreement. Invoices with a breakdown of their site costs were also sent in case the sponsor did want to renew. Committee member Bennett told the group the signed documents and payment are due within 30 days of the email she sent. Her email also mentioned a Palmetto clean-up day to be held February 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Field Services Manager Lavorini said the Public Work crews will pick up the weed piles on their regular Palmetto route. Chairperson Moses asked to have a short discussion on plants in general. She asked if the lavenders at Palmetto seemed to be faring well or should other plants be considered. Committee member Jonas reminded the group the plants they have been using at the Rotary Club site have been replanted four times and they have yet to survive. Committee member Gossage recommended California Native Plants as they are less prone to disease, attract bees and butterflies, and tend to be more adaptable to the local climate. Chairperson Moses asked Councilmember Beckmeyer if the plants that died off at the Cabrillo bioswales were just in one location, or if they were dead on both sides. Councilmember Beckmeyer confirmed both sides had dead plants. Committee member Gossage stated some species were fine, while others looked droopy. Councilmember Beckmeyer said some plants were uprooted during the last big storm and the ones that survived were not coming back as robust. Chairperson Moses asked if Councilmember Vaterlaus was still interested in adopting one of the Crespi sites. Councilmember Beckmeyer said because of the planting that was occurring already at the sites, she asked Councilmember Vaterlaus if she would be interested in contributing to signage costs instead. Chairperson Moses would like to know if Councilmember Vaterlaus would be interested in planting there as well since the area looks sparser than the others. Chairperson Moses asked Committee member Gossage if she would be available on the Palmetto clean-up day to give guidance on what plants could potentially be used at the spots where the plants keep dying. She also requested assistance from Committee member Gossage on a formal drought-tolerant and “butterfly and bee friendly” list of plants for the group to give to sponsors.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. General Updates from Public Works:** Director Petersen mentioned recruitments coming up for the BAC. The terms for Committee members Hoffman and Hontalas are set to expire, and they were encouraged to reapply. Applications are due Friday, February 18th at noon.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business for the next agenda was brought up. Committee member Hontalas said she noticed the Grace McCarthy site needs maintenance. Committee member Jonas would like to discuss a new work plan with Committee member Gossage and said a planting day will follow they obtain the guidance. In the meantime, the group would like to see the weeds be pulled by early March. Committee member Hontalas asked if there were any interested parties for the available Crespi sites. Chairperson Moses said she would look into more Adopt-A-Spot signs to put into those open sites and recommended the sites also be advertised on social media.

Committee member Wells mentioned he spoke to Lynn Adams of the Pacifica Beach Coalition about the available spot next to statue and asked if she knew anyone who may want to adopt. He said Lynn Adams offered to advertise on the Pacifica Beach Coalition Facebook if the BAC supplied her with a posting. The group agreed a list of their available spots should be posted on multiple social media sites. Committee member Bennett suggested adding photos to the advertisements.

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 7:23 p.m.

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