



**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Town Center Hall – Meeting Room 1
Meeting of Wednesday, February 25, 2015**

MINUTES

Chairperson Albert Hayes called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Rita Argott, Margaret Bustos, Debra Cabrera, Vada Conrad, Albert Hayes, Mary Jo Haller, Paula Minnehan, Irene Pasillas, Lupe Placencia, Juliet Ray, Mary Reed, Joseph Saiza, May Sharp, Marlene Vernava, Doris Yarwood, Charlotte Zevallos

Staff: Jo Ann Madrid – Executive Secretary
Jean Madrid, Program Coordinator
Lori Balderrama, Administrative Clerk II

Absent: Mary Arias, Annie Petris

Excused: Sadie Calderon, Eleanor Connelly,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Doris Yarwood and seconded by Paula Minnehan to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2015. The motion was carried unanimously.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Councilmember Richard Moore Reported the following:

- Councilmember Moore along with City Manager Thaddeus McCormack recently visited the old Cenco Refinery. They found that on the east end of the property has removed piping and structures. They are now moving to the west side of the property where they are currently beginning work to tear down one of the tanks. This work is moving a little slower than on the eastside. The other tanks still have some sludge at the bottom which they are looking at carefully to try and deviate any problems with odor problems. The new owner of the property has now fully taken over ownership of the site and is working to clean it up to get it ready for development.
- Councilmember Moore stated that applications are now available for permits to sell safe and sane fireworks in July of this year. Applications are available at City Hall. All applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on February 25th in order to be considered for the lottery.
- Councilmember Moore announced that a new Bar-B-Que restaurant on Carmentia is getting ready to open up “Dickey’s Bar-B-Que” is will be located near Little Caesar’s Pizza in the Carmentia Shopping Center

- Councilmember also announced that a new Starbucks will be coming to the Promenade where the old Kentucky Fried Chicken was located. Kentucky Fried Chicken recently closed its door.
- City is currently trying to secure Panera Bakery & Restaurant to open in the city. Along with trying to secure Rosewood Restaurant that was a very well know establishment in Norwalk. Due to a leasing issue they have close after many years in Norwalk.
- El Tepeyac Restaurant is coming soon to Heritage Park. Currently we are working through some structure modifications. They will be open for breakfast, lunch and early dinner. On weekends they will be occasionally be hosting “Mariachis” with menudo breakfast.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Advisory Committee Code of Conduct Policy

Committee members were reminded that it is mandatory to turn in a signed copy of the Code of Conduct Policy. A list was read off indicating which committee members still needed to turn their signed copy. Members signed copies and turn them in at conclusion of the meeting

Easter Egg Hunt Los Nietos Park

The committee was invited to attend the Easter Egg Hunt at Los Nietos on Saturday, April 4th beginning with the pancake breakfast at 8am.

National Volunteer Week

Jo Ann Madrid announced that the city would be celebrating National Volunteer Week from April 12th – 18th. This is a time to recognize, celebrate and thank the City’s volunteer for their commitment to help strengthen and enhance life in the community.

Children’s Day at Heritage Park

Committee members were encouraged to come out a help volunteer and support Children’s Day event at Heritage Park on Saturday, April 18th from 12noon to 4pm. The member who participated at last year’s event were thank again for their continued support to this fun-filled family event. Staff was looking forward to their participation again this year.

Clarke Estate Improvement Update

Jo Ann Madrid announced that modifications for the Clarke Estate are coming along and moving very fast. We hope to have the grounds up and ready for events by May 1, 2015.

First Friday Event

The committee was invited by staff to attend the “Adventures of Tom Sawyer” at our local library on Friday, March 6th at 7 pm. This is a wonderful program where a renowned multicultural theater group will be presenting exciting adaptations of classic works of literature in highly interactive performance. There is something for every member of the family and should be a fun-filled evening.

Art Fest

The committee was reminded to keep their calendars clear to attend the 3rd Annual Art Fest at the Clarke Estate. Committee was informed that this year the time has been extended the program will be from 6pm to 10 pm.

Special Olympics

This is the first time the City will be participating in Special Olympics for Southern California. This program serves the needs of individuals with intellectual disabilities through sports training and competition. Practices begin on Tuesday, March 3rd from 3pm to 5pm at Lake Center Athletic Park Track. If you know of anyone that may benefit from this program or would like to volunteer coach please encourage them to contact Eddie Ramirez at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center.

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES REPORT

Report not available.

HERITAGE ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Vernava provided the following updates:

- The Heritage Arts Committee had received the rendering for the art work on the electrical boxes on Jersey/Telegraph by the Public Safety Office. The committee was not happy with the rendering and it was sent back to the artist to make some adjustments.
- The Heritage Arts Committee has contracted with former employee Margaret Hamon to help with advising the committee and city staff on maintaining the current art pieces. Ms. Hamon will all assist the committee with local business residents who have art pieces on their property to see who is responsible for the up keep of some of the pieces, if it is the responsibility of the business owner or the city.
- Ms. Vernava also reminded the committee of the upcoming date of the Art Fest on Friday, May 8th. To remember to save the date.

COMMITTEE PROJECTS FOR 2014

Arbor Day – Staff reported that they were looking into which school would be eligible to get a tree this year and coming up with possible dates for the school to pick for tree planning. They will report on the status at the March meeting.

Home/Business Tours – This would be determined at the March meetings as to when would be the best possible time to tour the city.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee to discuss possible tour dates for residential and business judging.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Committee Members shared their announcements accordingly.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Hayes adjourned the meeting at 10:17 a.m. the meeting was adjourned in memory of Alicia Mora and Vera Price.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2015, 9:30 a.m. at Town Center Hall – Meeting Room #1.

Respectfully Submitted

Jo Ann Madrid,
Executive Secretary