

MINUTES
MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
July 5, 2016
Aging & Disability Resource Center, 300 Adams Street
4:00 PM

Members Present: Paul Hartman, Marian Ripp, Jim O'Rourke, Lynn Austin, and Muriel Austin.

Chairman Paul Hartman called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Topics discussed included the delayed removal of stumps on Skyline Boulevard in the Preble Park neighborhood; an update on the progress of the Labaye.org website; the possible relocation of the Cup O' Joy coffeehouse; and ways to encourage community upkeep of neighborhoods.

Mary Jo Scanlan contacted Lynn Austin concerning a notice Mrs. Scanlan included in the Preble Park Neighborhood Association newsletter about the unfortunate removal of the trees on Skyline Boulevard. Marian Ripp said there hasn't been any cleanup work or landscaping to repair the damage yet. She contacted the City Forester Mark Freberg, and it seems the American Transmission Company is negotiating with the City as far as who's going to remove the stumps. Paul Hartman suggested that the Beautification Committee might work together with the Preble Park Neighborhood Association to resolve the issue.

Lynn Austin mentioned that better results might be obtained if citizens contacted the American Transmission Company's corporate office, explained the situation, and invited the company's public relations officer to come to their next neighborhood association meeting to discuss the problem. She mentioned a previous incident involving TNT Crust where she had sought help from the City of Green Bay's Protection & Welfare Committee for several years, but ultimately had to call Tyson Foods' corporate office in Arkansas; the company sent their public relations representative and an environmental specialist to visit her, and the problem was finally resolved.

Jim O'Rourke mentioned the landscaping along transmission corridors within the city could be an ideal example of urban landscaping. The high-tension wires continue from Osprey Point in Bellevue along the East River and through the Preble neighborhood to the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary. Instead of spending money on advertising, he suggested it would be better for American Transmission Co. to invest in landscaping, since that would make the public happier improve the company's reputation. A good place to start would be to look around the country and pick out nice landscaping put in place by power line companies, and consider if any of those examples might work. The landscaping would have to be relatively low-maintenance. Paul Hartman said he will invite Mark Freberg to come to the next Beautification Committee meeting to provide more information on the situation.

Lynn Austin said she got an email through the LaBaye website from a government official from the Fish and Wildlife Service requesting to use materials posted on the website. He is working on a maps project pertaining to farms on the Fox River. Lynn told him everything on the website is available for anyone to use. She has recently purchased over four hundred historical postcards with photos of Green Bay area—most of which are at least one hundred years old or older—and

has hired a student to help scan several volumes of the Wisconsin Historic Society's Proceedings, which contain substantial information specific to this area's history. Once the full set of the Wisconsin Historic Collection is completed, work will begin on the seventy-three volumes of the Jesuit Relations.

Lynn Austin said that Jan Oettinger is looking to relocate the Cup O' Joy Coffeehouse to a larger building, and she may move outside the city if unable to find a suitable building in Green Bay. She is also unhappy with the lack of consideration shown to existing businesses on Broadway regarding the absence of allotted parking space planned for the potential baseball stadium; the stadium is proposed to be located within a few blocks of the coffeehouse, and people attending the stadium events would have nowhere to park without occupying parking designated for other businesses' customers. Lynn said that it would be unfortunate if the Cup O' Joy moved out of the city, since the Cup is one of the few family-friendly businesses on Broadway; it is a non-alcoholic, stabilizing influence in the area. She observed that Broadway could use more businesses like that, rather than less. Establishments that do not serve alcohol generally are not a source of police-related expenses; they also draw families from outside the area to Broadway on Friday and Saturday nights.

Jim O'Rourke suggested the cannery on Main Street as a potential new location for the Cup O' Joy, but it's believed NWTC will soon be using that building.

Lynn used the 5-6 Club, previously located on Walnut Street immediately off of Broadway, as an example of how the City has, in the past, given preferential treatment to transient and out-of-town businesspeople rather than supporting their own residents.

Paul Hartman said it took twenty years to get what the neighborhood residents wanted for Navarino Park. Eventually a block of houses was taken down to enlarge the park, and the neighborhood is completely different now. Previously there had been problems with drug dealing, and the neighborhood was less wholesome. He again raised the topic of awarding citizens who are working to improve their neighborhoods, and suggested that this could be a part of the annual Beautification Awards. He said the Mayor will need to be contacted to make sure he is willing to be involved in the effort.

Lynn Austin also pointed out that there are no parks in her district except for the triangle of land between University Ave, Sturgeon Bay Road, and University Way. The district has a dense population. People don't want their children crossing state highways like Main Street and University Ave, so children in the area have no ready access to a park. Jim O'Rourke suggested a potential location for a park on St. George Street by the river, since buildings have already been taken down there.

The meeting concluded at 5:00 PM. Next month's meeting is scheduled for August 2.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel Austin