

Public Land Appearance and Recreation Board

Minutes

February 29, 2024

Members present: Deb Boyd, David Goodson, Bo Henderson, Alice Roess & Aidan Waite

Staff Present: Jennifer Brown & Cory Cathcart

Begin: 9:00 a.m.

End: 9:50 a.m.

**November Minutes Approved:** Motion by Bo Henderson to approve and seconded by Alice Roess, carried unanimously.

**New Board nominated:** Bo Henderson was named President, Deb Boyd was named Vice President, and Aidan Waite was named as Secretary.

**Budget Update:** Copies of the Revenue Statement and the Encumbrances and Expenditure Statement were distributed amongst the Committee.

It was explained to new Board Members that the money needed to fund PLARC is all through donations. It was also explained that the Budget year is July through June. We are \$7870.00 short of the Revenue Estimation.

We have started to advertise the Hanging Baskets. A letter was sent to all taxpayers, totaling 4800 letters. A new Printing Company is being used which has a 100% delivery record. This will cover General Funds, Planters / Hanging Baskets, and Cemetery Donations. Hanging Basket donations are \$75, and Planters are \$100; A thank you letter is sent to the "In Memory" address.

The Town Cemetery is maintained by the town and funded by donations.

When a new project arises, for instance, the History Walk (on Town Property), the Town Manager and Town Council will direct them to the Board for our recommendation to the Town Council. If we have suggestions for a new project within the Town, we will put them on our Agenda and propose them to the Town Council.

**Flower Update:**

From September 2023 receiving orders for flowers, after New Year's go through baskets and replace the hanging baskets.

February, baskets go to Greenhouse to begin the process. Start hanging by Mother's Day and finish by Memorial Day. The work is done by Carmen Greenhouse. 160 Hanging Baskets up from 80 five years ago. We also have 22 Planters on both Main Street and Sunset. We need to have extra baskets available due to the weather and some being taken by visitors and bridal parties.

Riverdale Nursery in Newland and Mustard Seed are local nurseries that are used for flowers. The town waters the baskets and pots every other day. Flowers exist down Laurel and Main Street from 321 North to 321 South.

### **Arbor Day:**

Arbor Day is Friday, April 26 and the plans are to plant a tree at Broyhill Lake. The time and place of planting the tree will be confirmed by Cory. This will maintain our status as a Tree City USA.

### **Broyhill Lake Aeration:**

The aeration system was explained. The system makes the organic matter and leaves, etc. rise to the surface. This seems to be a more efficient way to clean the Lake than dredging. It is an official Trout Water, so it is a controlled environment from the end of September until mid-November. The fountain will be shut off during the night in October and November to hopefully have any leaves and debris drop off the intake.

### **Other Business:**

Deb brought up the question of a railing by the stone steps up from Broyhill Lake towards Main Street. We were told the cost could be as much as \$80-90K. Outside of our budget.

Also, the question of deer control was broached, how can the town work with the deer thinning since the population is getting out of control?

### **March meeting:**

At the meeting, it was stated that the March Meeting would be at 9 am on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup>.