

BRAAC Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2014

BRAAC Members Present: Alice Roess, Rita Wiseman, Bo Henderson, Melissa Picket, Deborah McDowell, Myra Scoggins, and Curt Andrews

BRAAC Members Absent: Anne Barnes and Barbara Wright

Guest: Albert Yount

Staff Members: Chris Pate, Jennifer Brown, and Scott Fogleman.

The meeting was called to order by Alice at 5:30 p.m.

Approve March Minutes – Myra made a motion to approve, Melissa seconded it and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

Approve April Minutes – The following changes to the draft minutes were recommended:

- Spring Clean-up Day Planning- Add that Myra was donating chili and Alice was contacting Food Lion for donating cakes
- May Meeting/Vote for Board Officers- Remove voting for secretary, as the position has been eliminated.
- Beautification Project Consideration- Add to “up light the blue spruce tree” and change “not to disturb sidewalk area” to “not to disturb the rock border”

Bo made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes, Rita seconded it and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

Budget Update – Jennifer stated that to date BRACC has received revenue of \$18,510 for the annual letter, \$450 for the hanging baskets, \$100 for the cemetery, and a \$2,000 grant. She also stated that \$21,500 was budgeted to spend for the year and to date BRAAC has only spent \$6,424.16. Alice asked how much was going to be spent on flowers and hanging baskets. Chris stated that it was a little over \$6,000. Alice then asked if we could get a balance of what money BRAAC actually has because her recollection was that when BRAAC become an official board there was approximately \$30,000 turned over to the Town. Scott stated that he could get that number and give it to them. Jennifer also said she would e-mail a copy of the expense report she had to all the members.

Vote for board Officers/Chairman and Vice-Chairman – Alice nominated Bo as Chairman, Deborah seconded it and it was a unanimous vote to approve. Curt nominated Rita as Vice-Chairman, Bo seconded it and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

Spring Clean-up Day Planning – Saturday, April 26, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. Alice stated that even though it went well she wanted to figure out how to get more participation in this event. She mentioned possibly putting up banners or some kind of sandwich boards. Rita stated that the Town outlawed banners 10 years ago because there were so many groups putting them up and it was too much. Rita mentioned getting more groups involved such as Rotary, Faithbridge Church, community college horticulture classes etc. Deborah mentioned getting in touch with different sororities and fraternities at ASU and going to local church youth groups. Bo mentioned going to neighborhoods and homeowner associations in Town. It was also mentioned to advertise on Rays Weather and to make sure David Rogers had all of the information. Alice said she would contact ASU to see what they could do. Jennifer stated that it was spring break for the elementary students and Curt mentioned that Merlefest was the same weekend. Scott suggested that when setting the date next year we look at competing events before the date is set.

Volunteers to Prepare Thank You Notes – Melissa and Alice both said that they would write thank you notes as needed.

Spring Planting Day/Hanging Baskets Planning – Spring Planting Day will be May 17, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. Everyone will meet in front of Town Hall. Myra mentioned advertising with Rays Weather and David Rogers. Deborah asked where planting will take place and Rita mentioned that in years past during planting day there was not a lot to be planted. Jennifer stated that Chris will set up groups to go plant not just the front of Town Hall but also other flower beds in all of our parks. Rita also asked who was in charge of planting the Post Office hill and Scott stated that Wells Fargo owns the property and he had been in contact with their contracted landscaper. The landscaper said that he would take care of Gossip Park and the Post Office.

LED Light Behind Town Hall – Alice asked Scott how the Town felt about the LED light and Scott stated that the preference was for incandescent light because of the warm glow look; however everyone wanted to see what the return on investment would be and the long term energy savings. Bo stated that cost savings would be great and throughout the years they have been working on LED lights that have a warmer glow. Guest Albert Yount also mentioned that there is a light behind Town Hall that shines downwards and is not incandescent and not like all the other lights in Town. He thought it would be good for everyone to compare all three lights and then make a recommendation. Rita also suggested contacting ASU to see if someone could come and determine the best lighting option for the safety of the Town.

Beautification Project Consideration –Chris designed a new plan for the front of Town Hall which includes keeping the blue spruce, removing the grass from around it and adding mulch. He suggested enlarging the turf area around the sign in front of Planning and Inspections and suggested relocating two trees currently to the right of the Town Hall entrance because they are not growing properly. He also included evergreens throughout for color during the winter months. Jennifer stated that she has received one quote for \$1,369.28 to trim the blue spruce but was waiting on another quote from another company which she should have soon. Rita made a motion for BRAAC to pay for the tree to be trimmed, new plantings, and the mulch and to let Chris, Scott, and Jennifer decide on the person to use that would be best for the job and the implementation, Bo seconded it and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

Christmas Decoration Alternative Plan – Alice stated that the arborist from ASU, Edward Hyle, suggested that maybe the Town could sell bows to be put on the tree. Melissa stated that there would still be a cost for a cherry picker to be able to put the bows on the tree. Bo suggested that there could be a sacrificial tree every year to be brought in and decorated and Melissa suggested that we use the potential new gazebo in Memorial Park as the new tradition and focal point of the Lighting of the Town.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

A special joint meeting with Council is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2014 at Town Hall at 5:30 p.m. for an update on the Gateway Project by ASU students associated with the entrances to Town.