

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL
CITY OF AMARILLO

Minutes

On September 10, 2018, the Beautification and Public Arts Advisory Board met at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall at 509 S.E 7th Avenue, Room 306 for a Regular Meeting.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	TOTAL ATTENDED	TOTAL MEETINGS
Jason Boyett	Y	7	7
Jacob Breeden	Y	7	7
Beth Duke	Y	6	7
Keith Grays	Y	5	7
Sonja Gross	Y	6	7
Angela Knapp Eggers	Y	6	7
Eddy Sauer	Y	6	7
Kelley Sims	Y	5	7
Andi Wardlaw	Y	7	7

Also in attendance were:

Sherman Bass Amarillo Civic Center Complex General Manager
Courtney White Assistant City Attorney
Michael Kashuba Director of Parks and Recreation
Pat Westbrook Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
Pat Brickman TXDOT
Karen Shipley Amarillo Civic Center Complex Administrative Assistant

Item 1. **Call to order.** Chair Jason Boyett called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM.

Item 2. **Minutes.** Beth Duke motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Angela Knapp Eggers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Item 3. **Present and Discuss City of Amarillo’s Tree City USA Program.** Michael Kashuba presented the Tree City USA Program. Amarillo has been a Tree City for 21 years. The city lapsed last year, but the current application is in process. He stated that there has to be four standards in order to apply to be a Tree City USA and those are:

1. Tree Board or Department – Amarillo Parks Board serves in this capacity.
2. Tree Care Ordinance – There are approximately 17,000 trees that the parks department maintains and the City has an ordinance.
3. Committee Forestry Program with an annual budget of at least \$2.00 per capita. The City believes it is in compliance and will verify before submitting application.
4. Arbor Day observance & proclamation – Arbor Day is the 1st Friday in November.

Item 4. **Present and Discuss I-40 / I-27 Interchange Landscape.** Mr. Kashuba presented a brief history of the landscaping of the Interchange. The last interstate landscaping was installed in 2005. Due to the high cost of maintaining the new design (2005), and the lack of available maintenance funds, there was significant decline in the landscape areas. TXDOT started to remove dead materials in 2016. Pat Brickman presented the TXDOT information. TXDOT is requesting \$2M from Austin in the current proposal to update the Interchange. They are suggesting concrete on steep slopes and native grasses will be added. There will be no plant maintenance done by TXDOT. When considering landscaping, the ongoing costs must be included such as staffing and watering. TXDOT does not have funds to maintain the plants. The \$2M will be for construction only. Kelly Sims asked to trim the trees that are still there and has begun doing some.

Mr. Brickman and Mr. Kashuba both agreed that there would not be any water meters added to the interchange based on the current project scope and funding. The money from Austin will be for construction only. Keith Grays wanted to find out what we can do to get water to the interchange and suggested writing letters to the Austin lawmakers. Ms. Duke stated that the main highway needs to help the first impression of Amarillo be memorable. Sherman Bass reminded the board that there will be upcoming legislation in Austin to create a TPID. Dr. Eddie Sauer let us know that the City will mow three times and TXDOT will also mow three times each year. Chair Boyett suggested we include this in the Master Plan.

Item 5. **Discussion of Mural Project.** Chair Boyett updated the board on the first mural. Jason Boyett, Sherman Bass, Angela Knapp Eggers, Andy Wardlaw and Beth Duke reviewed the proposals from eleven artists. The group unanimously felt like Jose Martinez was the one to choose for the mural and he had the most prominent use of the CVC logo. Chair Boyett issued a press release, and a press conference was held this morning. Michael Conner, Director of Aviation at the airport, is very excited and wants to have a public unveiling that is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2018. The city manager and Mr. Bass talked briefly to the art teacher at Caprock, Shawn Kennedy. He is hoping to connect with us to be on a future agenda to talk about what he is doing with the students in Amarillo and what overlap there might be with our board. Also the community volunteer that is over the Barrio Master Plan reached out to Chair Boyett as they are planning many gateways into their neighborhood that might consist of murals. Ms. Knapp Eggers asked about next steps for mural project. She also suggested that one RFP be used to do multiple murals on the next RFP in order to use everyone's time efficiently. She also suggested that the dam at Medi Park be a possible location. She will send photos of that area. Mr. Bass reminded the board that the city has committed \$30,000 for FY 18. In theory and ideally the \$30,000 will be doubled from businesses that want to participate similarly to how the CVC helped on the Airport Mural. It would be helpful if we could get the next projects on privately owned property. Mr. Bass suggested we focus during the next couple of months on the first beautification project. He will schedule a meeting with legal and purchasing to debrief the first mural project and lessons learned. Mr. Kashuba mentioned that in the future we may be able to structure it as a call for artists. Chair Boyett thanked Jacob Breeden and Mr. Bass for getting all of the loose ends tied up for the first

mural. Sonja Gross thanked all the committee members that reviewed the RFP and were able to get the first mural finished so smoothly.

Item 6. **Discuss and Consider Beautification Project.** Chair Boyett summarized that gateways are off the table, at least for short term. Ms. Duke suggested need for a short term beautification project with impact like we did with mural project. She suggested that a small parcel of land could be adopted for a beautification project. Mr. Bass reviewed original brainstorming ideas regarding beautification. Mr. Grays would like to get lights in the trees Wild Horse Lake. After discussion and input, Mr. Kashuba said that he would get a rough estimate on how much it could cost for the project. Other ideas were presented including Kelly Sims suggesting a dead tree removal project, and a clean-up of Lawrence Lake and T-Anchor Lake. Mr. Grays mentioned possible restrictions due to federal or state regulations. Pat Westbrook confirmed that there are some regulations but the group hoped connecting with the right officials would be fruitful. Chair Boyett suggested tree removal become part of the master plan. Ms. Gross made a motion to explore lighting trees at Wild Horse Lake and Mr. Grays seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Kashuba agreed to get upfront and ongoing expenses for the group to consider.

Item 7. **Discuss and consider Master Plan.** Chair Boyett reminded the group the master plan update will be a very large undertaking. Discussion revolved around the large scope of the project and other plans that need to be referred to/ included. Mr. Bass will visit with Dr. Sauer and Mr. Kashuba to make further recommendations. Since the Master Plan will take a lot of hours to produce, the board might need to break it down and take one topic at a time. All members agreed that the Master Plan must go forward in order to continue the reason this committee exists. Both Mr. Breeden and Ms. Gross want to help with master plan.

Item 8. **Public Forum.** None.

Item 9. **Consider Future Agenda Items.**

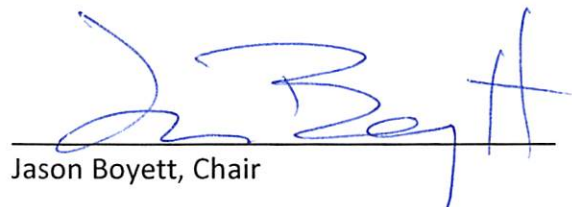
Item 10. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting date will be October 15, 2018 at 4:30 PM.

Item 11. **Adjourn.** Chair Boyett adjourned at 6:45 PM.

ATTEST:



Sherman Bass, Secretary



Jason Boyett, Chair