

MINUTES
GALT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 21, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Moore at 3:45 p.m. Members present: Moore, Hines, Johnson, Lopes, and Trant. Absent: none. Staff member present: none.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

MINUTES:

The Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 2010 (there was no meeting for the month of August or September). Lopes approved and Hines seconded

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no correspondence to discuss

NEW BUSINESS:

Rusty Hughes (City of Galt Code Enforcement Officer) was invited and attended the monthly meeting. Chairman Moore invited Rusty Hughes so we could discuss ongoing concerns with the beautification of Galt.

Hughes thanked the committee members for their ongoing support and efforts towards the beautification of Galt. Hughes listed examples of the numerous city citations and violations he has dealt with for this year.

The issue of “walk-a-way” homes was discussed. Hughes states **the best way** to notify him of city concerns and potential violations is to email him – he stated he will get back with us as soon as possible - rhughes@galt.ci.ca.us

Hughes clarified that vacant lot concerns such as weed abatement within city limits is the responsibility of the CSD Fire Department.

Hughes manages the vacant homes – blight, weeds ETC must be within public view, at least 12 inches tall, and over 50% encroachment. He cannot go into properties back yards ETC.

Chairman Moore brought up her concerns with the Savemart empty lot – there are a lot of weeds and papers and other blight tossed there. Hughes states he has spoken with the Savemart people before and will follow up.

Candidate signs may only be placed on private property. The committee members expressed hope that the signs would be removed after elections in a timely manner.

Privately owned trailers, jet skis, boats ETC will be addressed on a complaint basis only.

Anything that is in the street or public way is the responsibility of the police department and can be reported to Lynn Hutchinson.

Hughes reiterated that **public** city concerns and issues are managed by the police department and **private** city issues are managed by Rusty Hughes.

Member Hines made mention that the new BBQ joint Wayz has closed as has the iconic Galt Frostie.

Member Moore brought a new flyer with community reminders to share with the other members.

There was discussion about having another Holiday party during the December meeting. The party idea was approved by the members unanimously. Chairperson Moore elected member Lopes to be in charge of the plans and decorations. Moore instructed Lopes to get prior approval for the Holiday decorations before the party.

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Member Hines will request from the city staff that the committee be provided copies of the previous month's meeting minutes and other correspondence and information made into packets for the members.

Chairman Moore discussed the possibility of looking for another alternate member for the committee and the group approved. Moore stated she would follow up with city staff as to procedure for posting for an alternate.

Chairman Moore shared the committee photo album and the new pictures which have been added.

Chairman Moore discussed the recognition of the Home-of-the-Month (located in a local trailer park) – a citizen has made recognition and Moore inquired as to whether the members were in agreement. All approved and Moore will take care of the recognition process.

The Home-of-the-Month program will then take a winter respite as in the past.

OLD BUSINESS

Garage sale signs - Update Report – mention was made that citizens are more aware and becoming more creative with the posting of garage sale signs. Garage sale signs posted on public property with addresses can be dropped off at the City Clerk's office for follow-through.

Bed of Roses Project – Update Report – No update for roses. Mention was made that someone actually stole the flowers from the pot in front of the video store. Also mention made that the flowers in the pot in front of the barber shop are dead. Committee members have had difficulty managing that particular pot.

Adopt a Street Program – Update Report – no updates to discuss

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Vice Chair Lopes – agrees to chair the Holiday party. The date is 12/16/2010. Lopes will update the committee with plans at the November meeting.

Committee Member Johnson – Vicki has volunteered to take over the care of the SMUD park plants.

Committee Member Hines – will contact Donna for meeting minute and other correspondence packets.

Committee Member Trant – member Trant is now a fully fledged member of the Beautification Committee. Welcome Lois!

Chairman Moore - Moore shared a letter she had written for the Character Coalition for the business Twice Nice. The recognition was nice, however; the business did not win the award this time around.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. to reconvene at 3:30 p.m. on November 18, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Hines
Galt Beautification Committee Member