

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 13th, 2024

Attending meeting:

Sam Livingston, Mary Livingston, Preston Becker, Betty DeNall, Gail Parker, Pam Behrensprung, Jayne Hayden, Gail Swenson, Anne Neel, Pete Behrensprung, Gary King and Danny Hart.



CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA:

The Lee Plantation did great. This was a very large event. We owe the success of Christmas Extravaganza to all the people that helped with the planning, organizing, contributions and donations! Everyone in the community that attended was a part of this successful evening. What an amazing evening of sharing. Did you ever see so many crockpots? What fun!

THANK YOU TO THE AMAZING GROUP THAT CARED ENOUGH TO GET INVOLVED!

Anne Neel, Pam Behrensprung, Gail Swenson, Chucky Huffman, Mary and Sam Livingston and Nancy George. Hope we are not missing anyone.

LEADER ELVES:

PARADE Weezie (Louise Sanders)

LUMINARIES AND SANTA (Jayne Hayden)

FOOD AND BEVERAGE (Gail Parker, Suzette Riddle and Betty Huffman)

MUSIC (Shane Riddle)

AUDIO SYSTEM (Diane Potuto)

CONTEST (best golf cart—Shane & Suzette Riddle / best house—Mike Holstein & Nancy George)

CONTEST (winner of elf and nutcracker contest were Vickie & Larry Butcher)

CLEANUP (beautification crew)

COST OF EVENT:

Donations in cash came from:

Women's Club: \$100.00

Men's Club: \$100.00

Super Happy Hour: \$100.00

The above amount was used for food which included sandwiches and condiments.

Total cost of food purchased \$294.71

Difference of \$5.29 added to BC cost.

BEAUTIFICATION DONATION:

Misc/food and paper: \$300.84

(Minus \$5.29 from club's)

Total cost paid by BC: \$295.55

(Expenses paid from BC donations)

HOW WAS MONEY SPENT BY BC:

Beautification purchased all the paper goods \$204.25. BC was not able to use the paper products that were purchased by the clubs. We must purchase our own product for this event.

Note that Contest for best house, golf cart and elf and nutcracker contest \$75.00. Display flyer signs were \$21.59

Originally BC donation items were purchased by Brenda Hart. BC will repay Brenda from our Beautification donation funds the amount of \$295.55.

The pots for tables and plants (ferns) used as centerpieces were charged to budget funds since the plants were being added back to our gardens.

DONATIONS FOR THE EXTRAVAGANZA:

Candy parade: Jayne Hayden (also provided Mr. and Mrs. Santa outfits)
New Santa table cloths: Dan and Brenda Hart / Bob and Louise Sanders
Elf and Nutcrackers for contest: Lou and Gail Parker / Dan and Brenda Hart

Remember Beautification is not a money maker. We do not sell tickets to create a profit like the clubs. The things we do are to improve the grounds in the community. We are given a budget to do the landscaping and maintenance etc.

Beautification relies on donations for plants, trees etc. A great way for residents to see their donations at work like: Soil that is brought in for homeowners to purchase for their property. Trees that are donated for beauty. Memory plant for someone. Landscaping additions like the fountain at the clubhouse, roundabouts, pots for plants etc.

The Christmas Extravaganza is Beautification's way of thanking the community for their support and donations over the year.

Betty DeNall brought up the subject of having extra help in the gardens during the summer months. We agree July, August and into September can be brutal when maintaining the landscape. Currently extra hands would be great but not always available and physically some folks cannot do the work. Question was asked about providing additional labor during the hot months to relieve pressure on others that are always working the grounds. Having someone that would keep the weeding and light trimming maintained. Keep in mind we do not have many residents here during the summer. Hard to find help. Preston suggested we contact an outside source like a high school. They would garden a few hours each week. Question: what is the liability for outside workers? Note that we have accomplished so much over the past years so the landscape is established. This will be back on the table next month.

Pam Behrensprung introduced a new way to serve our crockpot soup, chowders and chili next year during the Christmas Extravaganza. Muffin trays with 4-5 ounce cups would be used if someone wanted to sample different crockpots. Fun! We like it and Pam is getting muffin pans from the dollar store.



BUDGET UPDATE:

Money now in the Beautification funds:

Donation account:	\$1107.88
(After Brenda paid)	<u>\$ 295.55</u>
TOTAL	\$ 812.33

Soil funds: \$450.00

(cash money collected from sale of soil purchased by Beautification) Currently the sale of one bucket is \$25.00. We will probably need to put \$5.00 of this money into the Kubota fund. More on this later.

BUDGET FOR 2024 we will know in February.

DONATION TREES:

We will be adding the following new plants over the next month.

George Vukich. A Royal Poinciana tree in memory of Cathy. (Waiting for tree) delivery.

Gary and Angela Reed. Palm tree for Old Southway

A pink powderpuff plant on order for Suzanne Martin. (Memory plant for Debbie Dubois.)

Keep in mind that after the storm in 2022 there was no exact budget for 2023.

We worked with money the board allowed BC to bring our grounds back up to speed. We were in a recovery mode.

Recovery after the hurricane was extensive. We are looking good considering the devastation.



THANK YOU TO THE GARDENING CREW THAT HELP'S MAN THE LANDSCAPE THIS TIME OF YEAR.



Bruce Haley has given us such a break by consistently weeding numerous areas.

Trimming and cutting the areas along the south side of Old Southway with Preston and Dan Kosowicz.

FEBRUARY:

Start the planting along the front wall of the clubhouse.

Work on the orchard area. We have 2 mango trees to add.

Watch the lake for improved water conditions so we can go back to using our irrigation. May take years.

(The lake is struggling to come back)



POWER WASHING:

Next power washing will be in February. Danny Hart will post the end of this month.

Please join us for our meeting each month.

Next meeting will be announced soon for February.

No shovel required!

