

**KENAI BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 13, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.  
KENAI CITY HALL  
CHAIR LISA GABRIEL, PRESIDING**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gabriel called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

**a. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Gabriel led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**b. Roll was confirmed as follows:**

Committee Members present: Chair L. Gabriel, T. Wilson, L. Craycraft, E. Heale, T. Wilson,  
S. Douthit, J. Phillips, B. Roland

Committee Members absent:

Staff/Council Liaison present: Parks and Recreation Director B. Frates, Council Liaison V.  
Askin

A quorum was present.

**c. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

**MOTION:**

Committee Member Wilson **MOVED** to re-elect Chair Gabriel. There being no objections, **SO ORDERED.**

**MOTION:**

Committee Member Heale **MOVED** to elect Vice-Chair Wilson. There being no objections, **SO ORDERED.**

**d. Agenda Approval**

**MOTION:**

Committee Member Heale **MOVED** to approve the agenda and Vice Chair Wilson **SECONDED** the motion. There were no objections; **SO ORDERED.**

**2. SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**a. June Harris – Historic Cabin Sign Flower Bed**

June introduced herself to the committee and gave a brief overview of the cabins and operations for the upcoming summer. It is anticipated cabins will be open first part of June. She further noted that she is requesting that the committee considers putting in a flowerbed at the base of the cabins sign that was relocated. She explained that there are some flower boxes inside the park that can be removed and indicated they may need help this summer maintaining some of the grounds inside the park.

**3. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT – None.**

**4. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY**

a. October 13, 2020

**MOTION:**

Vice Chair Wilson **MOVED** to approve the October 13, 2020 minutes and Committee Member Heale **SECONDED** the motion. There were no objections; **SO ORDERED**.

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.**

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Discussion/Recommendation – 2021 Flower List & Volunteer Plant Day**

A brief description of what has occurred in the past was explained for the benefit of the new members. Director Frates noted that last year's Plant Day was handled differently due to COVID-19. Frates stated that the participation was high last year and he attributed that to the flexibility people were given to selecting from several days. He noted that unless there is objection, his staff is prepared to do the same this year. There was no objection and a list of beds will be brought forward for the May meeting. It was suggested that Facebook, KSRM "What's Happening" and Public Service announcements be used to promote the activity.

b. **Discussion/Recommendation – 2021-22 Goals & Objectives**

Frates reviewed the goals and objectives calling attention to an in-house evaluation tool that allows staff to objectively evaluate parks and open space locations based on standards and desired conditions. Also pertinent to Beautification is a) continuation of minimum of ten trees; b) replacing of wood benches as Leif Hansen Memorial Park; c) staining fence at 4<sup>th</sup> and Forest; d) new flowerbed at Historic Cabin Park sign; and e) beetle-kill trees at City Hall, Public Safety and Library. It was noted the staining of the fence will be added.

c. **Discussion – CIP & FY22 Budget**

Frates noted that the 2020-2025 CIP in the packet was discussed at a joint work session with Parks and Recreation and no new items were listed for the 2021-2026 list. Because of an issue with the Kenai Recreation Center roof leaking, the roof replacement project is projected to be scheduled for 2022. The remaining were briefly reviewed.

d. **Discussion/Recommendation – Garden Tour**

The Garden Tour schedule was discussed and it was decided that August 10, 2021 at 5pm would work for committee members. It was noted that this is an opportunity to review areas and make suggestions for next season's beds.

e. **Discussion** – Bush Doctor's Cabin (Flowers & Shrubs)

Director Frates stated that there will be an opportunity for some landscaping at the cabin although he wasn't sure exactly what the final flower and shrub beds will look like. Once the snow is cleared, staff will take a look at it and formulate a plan. It was noted that it would be a good idea to utilize some native plant material.

**7. REPORTS**

a. **Parks & Recreation Director** – Parks and Recreation Director B. Frates reported on the following:

- The temporary summer maintenance positions are open and will close April 21, 2021;
- Parks Operator Randy Dodge has been juggling between tending to the greenhouse and grooming trails;
- Kite Festival is coming along nicely. Administrative Assistant Carol Bannock has been doing a great job planning for this. Date of event is May 29, 2021.

b. **Committee Chair** - Chair Gabriel noted that she looks forward to summer planting season and welcomed new members.

c. **City Council Liaison** – Council Member Askin reported on the actions of recent Council meetings, specifically calling attention to the purchase of Airport tractor, shop local and grocery programs, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park quick deed, Animal Control fine schedule, emergency COVID-19 planning, proposed changes to the commercial drift fishing and Airport Manager Bondurant's retirement.

**8. NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION** – May 11, 2021

**9. COMMITTEE MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Committee Member Heale commented she looks forward to the Kite Festival.

Committee Member Douthit inquired about the Historic Cabin flowerbed, and Director Frates replied that he would include pictures in the next meeting packed of what was done in the past.

Committee Member Roland stated she found the meeting informative.

**10. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

**11. INFORMATION** – None.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Meeting summary prepared and submitted by:



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Meghan Thibodeau  
Deputy City Clerk

