

**LAKE CITY/COLUMBIA COUNTY BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**  
**February 10, 2009**

**MINUTES**

There was a Regular Called meeting of the Lake City/Columbia County Beautification Committee held on February 10, 2009, located at the Columbia County Annex Building, located at 135 Northeast Hernando Avenue and beginning at 4:00 P.M.

Present: Betty Lane, Chairman  
Stephen M. Witt, Mayor- tardy  
Scarlet Frisina, County Commissioner  
James Montgomery, Citizen  
Karl Burkhardt, Lake City Journal.Com  
Jackie Kite, Lake City Downtown Manager  
Grayson Cason, Lake City Projects Manager- tardy  
Audre' Washington, Lake City Citizen's Advocate- tardy  
Nick Harwell, Lake City Director of Strategic Planning and Marketing- tardy  
Michele Greene, Deputy City Clerk  
Captain Bruce Charles- Sergeant-at-arms  
Jeff Hardison, Lake City Reporter

Absent: Harvey Campbell, Tourist Development Council  
Scott Reynolds, Lake City City Manager  
Kenneth Witt, citizen  
Faye Bowling-Warren, Citizen  
Ian Rodriguez, Lake City Community College

**I. Call to order**

Ms. Betty Lane called the meeting to order at 4:06 P.M.

Members discussed concerns regarding the ordinance that provides voting rights for advisory committees to only Council members. Capt. Charles added the Council had addressed this issue at the last Council meeting. Members also discussed whether the Beautification Committee was a City Advisory committee or an independent committee.

**II. Review and adoption of minutes**

- A. Regular meeting- December 2, 2008
- B. Special Called meeting- January 6, 2009

**Mr. Burkhardt made a motion to approve the Regular meeting- December 2, 2008 and the Special Called meeting- January 6, 2009 as published. Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

**III. Florida Arbor Day in review**

- A. Event quality
- B. Suggestions for improvement

Ms. Lane commended Mr. Harwell for his work on the programs and Commissioner Frisina for her Welcome for the event. Ms. Lane stated the honored families were very pleased with the biographical information. Mr. Burkhardt suggested possibly changing the event time for the 2010 event to 12 PM to allow time for the weather to warm up. Mr. Harwell also suggested depending on the weather the event could be moved indoors. Commissioner Frisina suggested having the displays tie-downed more securely or using a heavier stand to prevent the displays from falling over during the ceremony. Mr. Montgomery suggested writing a letter of appreciation to Mr. Sam Oosterhoudt with

LCMG for his contribution of the two trees that were planted in honor of the pioneer families. Ms. Greene was asked to compose the letter and have Mayor Witt sign on behalf of the committee.

**IV. Updates**

- A. Medians
- B. Mural

In Mr. Campbell's absence, Ms. Kite stated artist Keith Goodson was expected to be in Lake City for the Olustee Festival. Ms. Lane added the 150<sup>th</sup> History and Heritage Committee would be meeting with Mr. Goodson as well to provide another source of information for Mr. Goodson.

**V. Current Concerns**

- A. National Arbor Day
- B. Date/ Location/ Time
- C. Contacts
- D. Program/ Publicity

**Mr. Burkhardt made a motion to hold the Annual Tree Giveaway on Friday, April 24, 2009 from 10 A.M. until 1 P.M. at Memorial Stadium. Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

Ms. Lane asked Mayor Witt to contact Ms. Teresa Barrs to see if Elliano's would like to contribute to the 2009 Tree Give Away. Members discussed possibility of seeking sponsors for the event. Mr. Burkhardt suggested adding to the publicity of the event a request for sponsors for the event. Mr. Montgomery stated he would research the possibility of any Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Highway Beautification Grants. Mr. Harwell suggested solidifying what types of trees would be given away for the program.

Members discussed how the program was set up for the 2008 Annual Tree Give- Away. Mr. Harwell added if there was a particular tree the committee would like to highlight, he could focus the program of the event on that particular tree.

**VI. Other concerns**


Ms. Lane stated herself and Mayor Witt needed to meet with Ms. Sandra Caslow, Code Enforcement Officer, to discuss tree fines. Mr. Cason stated he will research through Code Enforcement the amount in fines that had been collected in the past. Mr. Cason added for tree fines to be designated to the Beautification Committee, this item would need to be presented to Council for approval.

**VII. Next meeting date**

A Special Called meeting will be held on March 31, 2009 at 4 P.M. to allow time to coordinate the Annual Tree Give Away. The next regular scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 4:00 P.M.

**VI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:52 P.M.

  
Michele L. Greene, Deputy City Clerk