

# Minutes of Community Pride Committee Meeting

February 3, 2009

1:30 p.m. City hall

Chairman Judy Hartley opened the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

## **Members of the committee in attendance were:**

Judy Hartley Tara Norback Steve Weyher Ron Hall Chris Myer Gerry Gerhart  
Jon Albert Jean Cantwell JoAnn Burdof Larry VanGilder Sandra Williams Jerry Adams

**Visitors:** Ben Kinel; Wiley Hendrix of Branson Daily News; Sam Clanton of KRZK; David Cissell of MoDOT; Burt Pitchford of MoDOT; and Stephanie Stogsdill of MoDOT

The first item discussed was "Welcome to Branson" signs. Larry VanGilder presented several examples of artwork for the signs that his sign shop created. MoDOT will now allow cities to place Welcome to signs along right-of-ways of major highways leading into the communities. Chris Myer suggested that before the committee selects artwork for the signs, locations along north and south U.S. 65 should be determined for the signs. Three members of the committee, Myer, Gerhart and Hall will contact Stephanie Stogsdill from MoDOT and find locations for the signs. The committee will also get the Branson Chamber involved in the design of the signs. When a size and design of a sign have been agreed upon by the committee, it needs to be submitted to MoDOT for final approval.

Committee then discussed the planting of flowers on the islands at highways 65 and 76. Public works has already started removing the gravel on the four islands and top soil will be brought in during the next three weeks to fill the inside of the islands. MoDOT is requiring a three foot buffer along the edge of the islands for which the city will use some of the gravel already on the islands. Committee member Jon Albert, who has a local nursery business, is donating flowers and volunteering to plant the flowers in early March.

Chairperson Hartley invited local resident Ben Kinel to attend the meeting and share how he obtains volunteers for his landscaping projects around the city. Ben maintains the Veterans Gardens at the intersection of 76 and Roark Valley Rd. He mentioned Boy Scouts, churches, College of the Ozarks and several other groups that the Pride Committee can use as volunteer resources. Contact information was given to Jerry Adams to keep on file for future projects. Burt Pitchford of MoDOT informed the committee that all volunteers need to go through safety training and sign release forms. Larry VanGilder volunteered the conference room in the public works offices at the Pacific Street Water Tower as a convenient location for all volunteers to meet and participate in the safety training before heading out to work.

It was suggested by VanGilder and approved by the committee to have the next meeting at public works on Tuesday, February 24, 1:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.