



Keep Carter County Beautiful (KCCB) Board Meeting Minutes

Chamber Conference Room, 615 W. Elk Avenue, Elizabethton & Zoom

July 28, 2022, at Noon

Board Members Present: Don Hlavaty, Doug Theobald, Ed Basconi, Mike Mains, Mike Simerly, Ross Garland

Board Members Absent: Lisa Vezzosi, Ed Jordan, Simon Maddock

Guest Present: Mary Ellen Hlavaty

Board Member Resignations: Ginger Holdren

Call to Order: Don Hlavaty opened the meeting at 12:03pm. A quorum was present. Don started the meeting by stating Ginger Holdren had given her emailed resignation as a board member. In addition, Doug Theobald stated he also felt that he needed to resign from the board after this meeting, due to health issues and his inability to participate in activities other than meetings.

Approval of the Agenda: Board approved the agenda.

Prayer: Mike Simerly gave the prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Don Hlavaty led the pledge.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to **approve the minutes from June 23, 2022**, meeting was made by Mike Simerly, seconded by Mike Mains and Ross Garland, and **Board approved**.

Public Comments: No comments were made.

KCCB Treasurer Report: Mike Simerly

- The bank statement closed 6/30/2022 with a balance of \$9,519.46 This included \$4,072.21 additional revenue posted by Microsoft Benevity. It included the expenses of \$12.07 for the Mail Chimp account automatically taken from the debit card. Other expenses were \$41.19 for gas expenses from wayfinding sign move, \$187.50 for screen printing of safety vests, and \$3,200.00 from the invoice from Hannon's Tree Services.
- We are also awaiting invoice for \$250.00 that represents our portion of the Trout Trash Trap. Multiple calls were made to invoice us prior to June 30th.
- Mike Simerly sent an email to everyone noting the current cash on hand, and expected contributions from the County and City, which gives an expected balance of \$19,519.46 to budget for 2022-2023 fiscal year.

2022-2023 Budget Considerations: Don Hlavaty

- Don distributed a spreadsheet of estimate proposals for the new fiscal year.

- Don confirmed the forms were submitted to the City of Elizabethton for Prescott via Jennifer Arnold last Monday, for our first installment payment.
- His proposed expenses for next year were reviewed and his plan was to spend more this fiscal year to participate in more activities, more education, and giveaways to the community. Any further donations could expand opportunities to focus on Ed Basconi's projects.
- Ed Basconi's ideas were:
 - Additional beautification in the form of flower beds (seeds)
 - Promote recycling by offering compost bins with minimum public cost
 - Public awareness via education through artwork from students
 - A contest for artwork to be used for a calendar or art fair. Propose 500 calendars at \$1,400 printing costs and a winner award of \$600, which could be promoted via local businesses, which he would like completed by end of the current year. The \$600 prizes would allow a \$50 prize for each month's drawing ($\$50 \times 12 = \600)
 - A scale model of the universe along the Tweetsie Trail
- Mike Simerly suggested advertising for compost bin by running ads in the newspapers to promote the program.
- Ross Garland spoke of the project for wayfinding signs. He needs help to install in parks. He needs money to buy concrete for post and tubes to support the signs and rent an auger to dig the holes for 25 signs. He felt this would cost about \$1,000.
- Mike Mains would like to expand the number of plots in parks and work together to plow and prepare plots. He suggested to plant on the corner of Hwy 321 and Milligan Hwy, along 19E entry into the city proper across from Food City.
- Ed suggested some press for garden plots via paper and TV features.
- Mike Simerly asked we request \$10,000 from city and more from the county to expand projects next year to plant more trees, gardens, park cleaning, and trash cans. We can contribute more to costs the Parks Department has spent on projects (mulch, prep, watering, etc.)
- Don discussed the city enforcement of lawn mowing and business enforcement of maintenance. He suggested we have an annual event to maintain our tree/flower projects with mowing, mulch, and weed & feed application, which would run about \$300-\$500 for supplies and free volunteer help to do the work. There was discussion of the right-of-way responsibilities for parties to actually maintain the property areas was a gentlemen's agreement to mow along the Tweetsie Trail right-of-way and communication with owners is needed to agree to mow. We need to weed trees, trim bushes, mulch, and replace dead plantings.
- Lisa's budget suggestions were discussed. A suggestion was made to move tee shirt monies to the Pay Pal account. We may want to support a booth at the annual Roan Mountain Festival in June. Also, Elizabethton events will be shared with Parks & Recreation at no cost to us as a partner for events within the parks.
- Ed Basconi suggested a tree donation program by citizens to plant as a spring and fall event. People could donate monies and we could take orders from the public, add signage of the donation with people picking a tree type and location.
- Don said he would rework the budget proposal and send it to everyone. In conclusion, the **budget items** were voted on and **Board approved** by item and amount as follows:
 - \$50 Expenses related to 501C3

- \$200 Elizabethton/Carter County Chamber of Commerce membership fee
- \$50 Banking/Northeast Community Credit Union fees
- \$250 Trout Trash Trap Maintenance Fee for 2 years
- \$500 Creating a Buffalo Creek Trout Trash sign (may change/no estimate yet)
- \$6,000 Trash Cans for Parks & Recreation via KCCB donation
- \$300 KCCB Yard Signs for public distribution (50 signs)
- \$500 Website Fee (Mail Chimp/PayPal/Microsoft); Go Daddy fees donated
- \$200 Event Fees (Xmas Parade/booths/dinners)
- \$4,000 Beautification via Trees/Mulch/Shrubs/Seeds (less if we get donations)
- \$500 Beautification via Signage/Wayfinding/Marketing
- \$500 Printing Fees (business cards/calendars/screen printing)
- \$2,000 Giveaways (magnets/candy/gloves/pens/bags/etc.)
- \$200 Miscellaneous supplies/expenses
- \$300 Litter Clean Up projects (tow truck)
- \$0 Allotted compost bins due to public sale at cost
- \$0 KCCB items in stock such as Grabbers, Logo Stickers, & Front Licenses

Keep America Beautiful: Don Hlavaty and Ross Garland

- Ross stated that Carter County pays the affiliation costs with Keep America Beautiful, Keep Tennessee Beautiful, and it submits the governance report & road evaluation of the trash survey.
- Don has itemized the survey sections and will distribute for members to survey.

Tentative Upcoming Events: All

Not discussed at this meeting.

New Business:

- Doug asked for an update on the Tweetsie Trail expansion. Mike Mains reported that approvals were done, but it was awaiting funding. The county is at odds with the state for permits for bridges and roadway extensions.
- Don gave update on the status of the tire cleanup of Betsy Tires. The tire removal by the owner was sent to a recycling company. The owner called us to help or just do the cleanup of his business's property. Don declined.
- Don told the city enforcement group about other sites, such as, Mike's Autoline has tires piled up, Birchfield Tire and Happy Valley Ford stockpile, then more than allowed by city ordinance. We will call the city inspector about any violations they need to address.

Next Board Meeting:

The next Board meeting will be on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at noon in the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 615 West Elk Avenue, Elizabethton, and available by Zoom.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13pm.

Submitted by: Lisa Vezzosi, Secretary, as recorded by Mary Ellen Hlavaty & Zoom recording.