



Keep Carter County Beautiful (KCCB) Board Meeting Notes

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

June 29, 2023, at Noon

Board Members Present: Don Hlavaty, Ed Basconi, Lisa Vezzosi, Ed Jordan, Melinda Maddock, Mike Simerly

Board Members Absent: Ross Garland, Simon Maddock, Mike Mains

Guests Present: Suzette Clark

Call to Order: Don Hlavaty opened the meeting at 12:04pm. A **quorum was not present**, therefore, only notes were taken on discussion from the attending group. Melinda Maddock entered the meeting via zoom at 12:34, to create a quorum. However, much of our discussion was already conducted.

Public Comments:

- Suzette asked about our school involvement. We discussed seed packaging and educational presentations. For the future school year, we would like to make an art contest for the 2024 calendar or a billboard for education on litter & recycling.
- Suzette asked about kids doing community service hours. We responded that we work with county courts and schools for referrals for service. We document service hours for time volunteered for the appropriate referral source.
- Suzette commented that she feels cigarettes are the most common litter source. We agreed and stated that some downtown businesses have been given cigarette containers, but most of that litter is in the streets.

Next Board Meeting:

The next Board meeting will be on Thursday, July 27, 2023, at noon in the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 615 West Elk Avenue, Elizabethton, and available by Zoom.

General Discussion Notes:

- Don stated that Carter County was not giving funding to any non-profits this year. The Budget Committee made those recommendations to the County Commissions, but they will have a meeting later to make the final determination.
- Mike Simerly reported that KCCB would be getting its fiscal year 2023-2024 funding requested from the City of Elizabethton for \$7,500. The final approval would come in the City Council June meeting. That funding would begin July 1st.
- Lisa reported that we have \$6,141.96 for the end of our fiscal year. She created a spreadsheet for consideration of the next fiscal year budget. Due to the lack of county funding, Don suggested we be conservative with spending. Mike Simerly suggested it should

be about 15% or \$1,000 that we leave in reserve. Mike suggested we spend \$3,000 on trees; however, we are running out of public open space to plant more. Discussion on the newer Redbud trees dying off, and Hannon does not have a replacement policy. It was suggested we pink tag these dying trees for replacement next spring.

- Don reminded the group that we have about \$220.22 in PayPal and only need to reserve 10% there. We should have done a fund transfer before our fiscal year end.
- Ed Basconi stated we sold 54 items in Store Frontier. He will contact them about a fund transfer.
- Mike Simerly suggested we expand the seed program. Perhaps we contact Hampton, Roan Mountain, etc. for a competition on flower plots.
- Don asked Melinda about the Benevity account. Apparently, it requires yearly maintenance and registration. Don stated that he self-registered again but got no response. He wanted her to check the KCCB status. Melinda indicated that the site must be wrong and will check on it.
- It was suggested that those in attendance look at the budget proposals we want to fund for the next fiscal year. We could also look into grants that may be available to help us fund items.
- Ed Jordan suggested we have a recognition event for Daniel French by city/county for his participation with our events. He feels Daniel has been a long-time contributor and public recognition by local government for his outstanding support should be given. His health is deteriorating, and Ed feels he would appreciate it.
- Don discussing tire disposal problems within the city businesses. He stated that he had asked the county for amnesty days but got no support.
- Ed Jordan suggested we invite Chris Schuttler and Patty Woodby to a future meeting to discuss use of funds collected within the city and county fine system. Funds are tracking to the General Fund to distribute for litter control. We should ask for a Public Information Act response to the use of the funds collected by them and who is getting them.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08pm.

Submitted by Secretary Lisa Vezzosi