

Minutes of Courts Grounds & Facilities Committee

October 25 2011

Present: Good, Houston, Moison, Phillips, Liggett, Alkire, Payne

Absent: Chou, Williams

Public: 0

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved.

Old Business:

Clint did an overview of the current situation for the funding of the memorial clock by the main entrance. Ben Lawrence still has the funding for the clock and installation from two community committees but has written and requested that he be allowed to hold some funding for a plaque on the war memorial honoring local fallen soldiers before he turns the money over to the County for the clock. The purchase and installation will be delayed.

Motion: Approve funding (and provide us with the cost) for the plaque before the funds for the clock are turned over to the County. Clint will write a letter to Ben stating same. (Charlie, Second-Lee) For: 7 Against: 0

Julie Grandfield stated that it is the wish of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors that the vote on the elimination of display site #6 be delayed until their December meeting because of the controversy on the display issue and the coming elections. They also stated that there will be no substitution for the eliminated site. Roy will report on the final rule proposals at the next meeting; new rules cannot go into effect until a future date. We will meet with the new Board and explain our concerns and reasons for our decision. It is felt that the displays this year may be so disturbing that the new Board may be more amenable to hearing our position again. It was felt that the current applications should be voted on immediately and not deferred.

Application #1 Manger Scene Approve 6 Abstain 1

Application #2 Atheism Sign Approve 4 Reject 2 Abstain 1

Application #3 Atheism Sign Approve 4 Reject 2 Abstain 1

Application #4 Promote Reason Sign Approve 5 Reject 0 Abstain 2

Application #5 Tree of Knowledge Sign Deferred until Julie gets more information

Application #6 Letter from Jesus Approve 5 Reject 1 Abstain 1

Application #7 Santa on a Cross Approve 5 Reject 0 Abstain 2

Application #8 Church of Flying Spaghetti Monster (1) Approve 5 Reject 0 Abstain 2

Application #9 Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster (2) Approve 5 Reject 0 Abstain 2

Application #10 Nativity Scene Approve 4 Reject 2 Abstain 1

Roy will approach the Rotary Club about putting up a lighted Christmas tree in front of the Courthouse. It is expected that the Garden Club will decorate the area with greens during the holiday season. Both the tree and the greens will have to be donated to the County and not go through any process with this Committee or the Courts.

Motion: Endorse the Rotary Club and Garden Club Christmas decorations as a donation to the County (Charlie, Second-Lee) For: 7 Against: 0

Chris Keeney reported that the pads for the picnic tables and benches on the grounds will be completed next week. General Services will purchase and install the furniture forthwith. It will be placed in the area near the employee entrance on King Street.

Meeting was adjourned due to a medical emergency of a Committee member.