

Lehigh Pride Team
The Beautification and Conservation Sub-Committee
Lehigh Acres Community Planning Corporation
John C. Miller, Chairman Ph 239-334-0313

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 2005 REGULAR MEETING

(Everyone please note the regular meeting in March is Thursday night March 17 at 7:00 in the Pottery Room of the Vet's Park Rec. Center).

The meeting convened at the Pottery Room of the Veteran's Park Recreation Center at 7:10 PM. Eight members were present and Mr. Robert Anderson. Everyone made great contributions to the discussions.

I brought up the beautification of the Lift Station with Severn Trent and FGUA and Board Chairman Fleming proposed that the committee to landscape the lift station needs to work on a Trademark or Signature style unique to Lehigh Acres to be repeated at other utilities and Gateways and business locations to let people recognize the community and the natural landscape that favors our area. The committee decided that this was a good idea and I am to bring this thought to Mr. Terry Wolfley for working it in with his committee. Then Barbara Joe Yen said she would take up the design of painting murals and general decor of the FGUA buildings and the water tank on Lee Boulevard with the artist group she is familiar with and the Arts School. I will mention it when I visit the High School to see if there is any interest there. The trademark planting for Lehigh Acres will be submitted in the overall Smart Growth Plan and to the associated LACPC subcommittees.

Myra Kessler is suggesting a community identity be established and we need to get input for this purpose. Lets think of a way to solicit ideas.

I then asked if members had a slogan for the Lehigh Pride team. The selection was unanimous. This is it; '**Neighbors Building Community Pride**', which will go on the back of the T shirts with the LACPC logo picture of the kids and Lehigh Acres, Florida in smaller print. On the front the Pocket Logo of the tree and Sun with Lehigh Pride Team in big letters. The color is to be bright. Mr. Fleming reports that he probably has a sponsor and the team decided to give credit to sponsors by public announcement and not on the shirts. Everyone submitted good ideas including Audrey brown who had to go out of town because of a death in the family.

T shirts will not be sold, they will be given away free and other means will be used to pay for lunches for workers on Earth Day and Saturday after. (April 22, 23). I told the team that I have been working to secure help from three sources besides the LACPC board and subcommittee members; the High School Community Service people, the FGUA Community Service people, and the Dept of Corrections Community Service and we intend to divide into three teams to work three areas until Lee Blvd is finished from the Welcome sign to Gunnery Blvd. Note, the area from Gunnery to Sunshine is already being covered by some other group. Mr. Fleming suggested a warning to people with signs along the right of ways to get them off the road or they will be turned over to the DOT as a violation.

johmiller@comcast.net
www.lehighacresplanning.com

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A discussion about the planting of donated trees concluded that trees in keeping with the determinations of Terry Wolfley's FGUA committee were to be placed at the intersection points of ECWCD ditches on Lee Boulevard inside ECWCD property and no plans to trim those Cabbage Palms would be necessary. Planting will take place on May 22 if possible to take advantage of the spring rains. Consideration will be given for power lines and optimum tree sizes. Other plants will be added as we are able with donations and good advice on native species.

We have one company who offered to help with this and Greg Deserio plans to find others if possible. The trees are coming out of ECWCD right of ways with assistance from the Water District. David Lindsay and I have discussed the feasibility of this. The planting will be announced as part of the Earth Day plan but delayed for favorable rains. Professional assistance will be solicited for the planting and the High School Environmental group will be there to help. Mr. Marshal Bagley of Bagley Environmentals will come to our March meeting to answer questions about plants and such. Holscher Landscaping is the first one offering to move trees. Myra is going to see if others will join the committee or help too.

The Spring Festival booth was fine with everyone but **I NEED PEOPLE TO OCCUPY THE BOOTH!** I have to go to classes on March 11 and 12 and will not be available until about 5:00 PM. The booth must be occupied **March 11, 12, 18, and 19.** The hours can be divided up into shifts. Jim Fleming is to locate Plastic back drop signs from the CRA or I will have to make something. There will be T shirts, post cards, and Damon Shelor will ask his company to donate plants to spruce up the booth and raffle off the plants to people who sign up to serve on LACPC subcommittees. I am reserving free T shirts for people that show up in Earth Day and will give them a free post card if they sign up to do it at the Spring Festival. Sign up sheets will be there for people coming to help on Earth Day, joining our Subcommittee, and any other subcommittee that provides a clip board for that purpose. In addition I will decorate a SUGGESTION BOX for people wanting to ask questions or give ideas to the LACPC, note papers will be there to do this and phone numbers/addresses will be requested.

Other business included working a list of local clubs and civic organizations to enlist suggestions and supply information for their involvement in the planning. Mr. Fleming promised to assemble a complete list for use by the whole LACPC. We are standing by for this list.

I mentioned an appointment to speak briefly to the Chamber of Commerce at their monthly luncheon (Feb. 22). One new member was added to our subcommittee roster from that meeting, a new landscaper in the community. Watch for him at the next meeting. Members may submit additions or changes to these minutes at the next meeting March 17 in the pottery room at the Vets Park Rec Center.

John C. Miller, Chairperson

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