



City of Granite Shoals
 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Road
 Granite Shoals, TX 78654
 (830) 598-2424 fax (830) 598-6538
www.graniteshoals.org

**AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF THE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY GROUP (BAG)
 OF THE CITY OF GRANITE SHOALS
 TO BE HELD AT CITY HALL, 2221 N. PHILLIPS RANCH ROAD
 GRANITE SHOALS, TX
 TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2016
 2:00 PM**

1. Call meeting to Order / Welcome and Introductions.
2. Consider the minutes for the BAG meeting February 8, 2016.
3. Discuss and plan work days and proposed budget items for Christmas by the Highway 2016.
4. Discuss LCRA Community Development Grant (Rainwater collection)
5. Discuss recruitment of new members.
6. Public comment and announcements.
7. Future agenda items.
8. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing agenda has been posted at Granite Shoals City Hall inside bulletin board, outside on the new Parks Information and City Notice Board, 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Road, and on the official city website at www.graniteshoals.org a place assessable to the public at all times, on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 on or before 6:00 p.m. and shall remain there continuously from such time until after adjournment of the meeting which begins 2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. City Hall is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 8 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Secretary at (830) 598-2424 for further information.



Elaine Simpson
 Elaine Simpson, TRMC/MMC - City Secretary



City of Granite Shoals
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**MINUTES FOR A MEETING OF
THE BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY GROUP (BAG)
OF THE CITY OF GRANITE SHOALS
HELD AT CITY HALL
2221 N. PHILLIPS RANCH ROAD
GRANITE SHOALS, TX
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

1. Meeting was called to order at 2:08 PM. Present were Donna Maier, Julie Brugger, Carol Carter and Marilyn Nations. Peggy Smith representing City Hall was also present. Also present were volunteers Rick Mills, Mary Mills, Dennis Maier and Carl Brugger.
2. Minutes of September 23, 2015 were reviewed. Carol Carter moved to accept minutes as read. Julie Brugger seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.
3. Review of 2015 Christmas by the Highway lighting display.
 - *Doing the 'Zilker' trees in advanced on an earlier day was discussed and all agreed it worked well.
 - *Budget request will be submitted in May.
 - *City Christmas Lighting contest to be discontinued due to lack of participation.
 - *Entry net lights will be continued and enlarged, but 8 trees are enough for entry.
 - *More music speakers are needed and more speaker wire.
 - *Suggestions by Peggy Smith and volunteers:
 - *Bucket truck rental discussed, city will provide.
 - *Refreshment venue at light up needs to be reviewed.
 - *Spotlight to light up Parking Area advised by Rick Mills.
 - This can be done when Z trees are put up.
 - Also parking signs or banners on Hwy 1431.
4. Plans for City Hall landscaping and 50th Anniversary Birthday Bash discussed. Workdays were set as March 28th and 30th, April 4th and 6th, 9-11 am. Plans for City Hall landscaping include:
 - *Feather grass volunteers to be moved to new area.
 - *Mulching to keep weeds downReport from Peggy Smith about an LCRA Grant for \$23,000 that is going forward to provide rain collection at tennis courts with distribution to landscaping. No action taken.
6. A Grant may be applied for with the Native Plant Society for additional plantings for a Monarch Way Station.
7. Discussion of the Citywide Cleanup tabled for future meeting.

8. Rick Mills is presented as a new member of the Beautification Advisory Group. Nominated by Carol Carter and seconded by Julie Brugger.

9. No public comments.

10. Future agenda items - Plan for Christmas by the Highway.

11.

With no other items on the agenda and no objections from the members of the Group, Chair Maier adjourned the meeting at 3:54 PM.

I, Donna Maier, Chair of the Beautification Advisory Group (BAG) for the City of Granite Shoals, Texas, certify that the attached are true and correct minutes taken from recordings and notes of the Committee meeting of February 8, 2016.

Donna Maier , Chair

date:

BAG Proposal for 2016 Christmas by the Highway light display

Things we could do for Christmas by the Highway:

- Buy a new lighted figure each year for the next 3-4 years
 - Possibilities:
 - Girl Caroler
 - Boy Caroler
 - Toy Soldier(s)
 - Jack in the Box
 - On sale after Christmas 2014 - we bought the "Animated Elf and Stocking with Controller"
- Replace rope light on older, existing figures - colors and amounts to be determined
 - **2014** - LED rope light used on "J-O-Y", "Peace on Earth", large angel, bells with bow, 6 pieces of the rope light nativity; and incandescent rope light was used on Santa in the sleigh and 2 camels
 - **2015** - LED rope light used to replace lights on three Kings and Baby Jesus; Santa in the airplane; lamp post; Menorah; entry arch
- Transition to LED light strings for Zilker trees (2 trees each year)
 - **2014** - purchased 48 strings red LED lights from Home Depot online for \$10.33 each
 - **2015** - purchased 48 strings multi-color LED lights from WalMart for \$6.94 each
 - **2016** - plan to purchase 48 strings green LED lights for remaining 2 trees
- Continue replacing entry trees
 - **2015** - generous donations gave us 4 new trees for the entry
- Add speakers to the sound system

Best place to spend money in Christmas sales (Lowe's starts 12/24)

- New lighted figure
- 4 to 6 more unlit artificial trees (Lowe's - "Fleetwood Pine" 7.5 ft. unlit tree)
- Canvas-type storage bag for each new tree (Lowe's - "Treekeeper" 25x52x20)

Highest priorities for 2016 display:

- Weatherproof Electrical Box Covers for outlets on poles
- Put LED rope light on cowboy
- Put LED rope light on "Happy Holidays"
- Put LED rope light on lollipops
- Put LED rope light on Star of Bethlehem
- Repair several items that had problems by the end of 2015 display
- Put LED rope light on "Omar" - ??

Lower priorities for 2016 display:

- Put LED rope light on Santa in the sleigh
- Repair/repaint additional deer and figures
- Buy LED light strings in warm white on white wire for deer
- Replace artificial trees
- Buy LED light strings for entry Christmas trees
- Evaluate items in storage for possible use in 2016 display
- New (digital) timer
- Storage shelves for storage shed - ?
- Begin to plan for garland replacement - ?

2017 - Discard remaining incandescent light strings - ??

Schedule of activities for Christmas by the Highway light display

January – turn off timer on January 1

- Monitor after-Christmas sales for potential purchase of new item(s)
- Remove display during first week (city staff bring empty boxes from storage; then return items to storage)

February – BAG meeting to review display and costs (electric bill should be available)

March

April

May/June – request to City Council for budget item to be included in next fiscal year budget
(budget request should also include any request for landscaping funds)

July

August – BAG meeting to begin planning for December light display

September – BAG meeting to plan/review proposed budget for display based on budget request; finalize when budget is approved; (plan for lighting contest if desired by City)

October – begin BAG work days to check, repair, refurbish light display items

- Begin purchasing needed items
- Work with City Manager/Assistant City Manager for purchases
- Work with City Manager/Assistant City Manager to plan for bucket truck to install light trees (and again to remove the light trees first week of January)
- Work with City Manager/Assistant City Manager to plan for lighting ceremony on Friday a week after Thanksgiving
- (If lighting contest desired by City – notice goes on water bill end of October)

November – continue & complete BAG work days and purchase of needed items

- Work with City Manager/Assistant City Manager to get lot mowed and electric meter installed before any set up begins
- Set up Zilker light trees on Monday before Thanksgiving
- Set up main display starting the Monday after Thanksgiving (city staff bring items from storage and stay to help install t-posts; then return empty boxes to storage)

December – first week: complete set up of main display and set the timer for evening and early morning hours (for school buses)

- Friday following Thanksgiving: light up ceremony
- (If entries for lighting contest – do judging on a weekend to coordinate with City Council meeting)
- Throughout the month: monitor the light display for any problems
- After last school day remove early morning hours from timer schedule
- Monitor sales for potential purchase of new item(s)

**CITY OF GRANITE SHOALS
BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY GROUP (BAG) BUDGET REQUEST
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017**

To the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, Assistant City Manager, City Finance Director, City Secretary:

1. Members of the Beautification Advisory Group (BAG) strongly recommend that the City of Granite Shoals find a way to set aside \$15000-16000 for landscape maintenance for the grounds around City Hall, the Interpretive Center gardens, and the Manzano Trail. This amount could be used to hire a part-time worker, or to hire a landscape maintenance company to come in once a month to do needed weeding, trimming, and other trail and garden maintenance. Additional funds may be needed for various supplies (weed-killer, etc).
2. For the Christmas by the Highway light display the BAG requests \$2000 once again for the 2016 display. This amount proposed to be spent as follows:
 - Approximately \$350 to pay PEC for the electricity used, and an electrician for any needed electrical work
 - Approximately \$500 to convert the last 2 of the "Zilker" trees to LED bulb strings
 - Approximately \$200 to buy rope light and repair parts to repair current rope light figures
 - Approximately \$400 to buy supplies and other repair parts (cable ties, bulbs, connection covers, tree storage bags, etc)
 - Approximately \$550 to purchase one new rope light figure for the display

Justification: for the past 2 years City Council has approved \$2000 for Christmas by the Highway. This amount has made it possible to improve the light display each year. BAG members have had continued success in converting display items to LED rope light or LED light strings with the result of a lower electrical bill each year. This is in spite of the fact that several items were added to the display in 2015 and a sound system was installed. (And yes, we did have about 3 days of the electricity being off due to high winds, but the overall cost of electricity was a little over \$9 per day.) Getting the electrical connections weatherproof continues to be a challenge, and will be the number one priority for the 2016 display.

3. The BAG also requests an additional \$1500 be made available for rental of a bucket truck if needed to put up the lights for the "Zilker" light trees in the Christmas by the Highway light display.
4. No funds are requested for landscape needs. Current BAG members are not able to continue to provide landscape maintenance for the City of Granite Shoals, but can be available for consultation or advice as needed.

In addition, BAG members want to thank city staff once again for their cooperation and assistance with landscaping needs and Christmas by the Highway.

2016 Christmas by the Highway

1 - Work days in September

2 - Work days in October

3 - Work days in November

4 - Set up starts Monday, November 28

5 - **LIGHTS ON - Friday, December 2**

6 - Take down starts Tuesday, January 3, 2017