

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES, IL
ST. CHARLES CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION
February 9, 2011**

Members Present: Chair. English, Vice Chair. Schuetz, Allen, Kane, Dechene

Members Absent: Potts

City Staff Present: Matthew O'Rourke

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was convened by Chair. English at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Chairman. English asked for any additions to the agenda and suggested that possible volunteer projects be added under additional business.

A motion was made by Schuetz and seconded by Dechene to approve the agenda.

Voice Vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Motion Carried. Members Absent: Potts

Motion Carried

3. Approval of minutes from November 11, 2010

Chairman. English asked for a motion to approve the minutes

A motion was made by Schuetz and seconded by Allen to approve the November 11, 2010 minutes of the Corridor Improvement Commission.

Voice Vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Motion Carried. Members Absent: Potts

Motion Carried

4. Discussion Items

A. E. Main Street Four Season Grant Sign Program

O'Rourke stated that he reviewed the list of properties that was generated by the Commission at the last meeting. O'Rourke 1st examined the IDOT plans to widen portions of Rt. 64 and how that would effect these properties. Once this was completed O'Rourke contacted the

property owners/managers to inquire as to their interest in the grant program. The three properties that responded favorably were:

- Tin-Cup Pass
- Warrick Publishing.
- St. Charles Self Storage

O'Rourke further explained that the same property manager is responsible for Warrick Publishing and St. Charles Self Storage.

Member. Allen stated that there would be some site restraints with the Warrick Publishing site and that the \$1,000 limit could present problems. O'Rourke explained that there is an opportunity to create a unified look for the entrances to Warrick Publishing and St. Charles Self Storage since they are adjacent.

O'Rourke explained that he discussed the option of having the Commission assist with the design and use the grant to pay for plant materials, but the owners would be responsible for installation. Vice Chairman. Schuetz stated that a \$1,000 grant should be enough to create an interesting design depending on which plant materials are chosen.

Member. Allen volunteered to take pictures of the planting areas for the next meeting. Vice Chairman. Schuetz asked if the idea was for the Commission to come up with a basic plan. O'Rourke stated that that was the original concept for this program.

The Commission inquired as to the timeline for the IDOT improvements. O'Rourke stated that he did not have a firm start date, but believed that construction would begin sometime during 2011.

O'Rourke stated that the next steps are to develop a plan and have the property representatives attend a meeting so that the commission could direct them with installation and where to get the plant materials.

5. Additional Business

Possible Volunteer Projects - Kirk Road Landscape Medians

Chairman. English mentioned that, over the course of the last two years, the Commission has discussed working with a volunteer group such as the Boy Scouts to place plantings in the grass median strips on Kirk Road. Chairman. English stated that his thought was to have native grasses and perennials installed. The idea is to have maintenance free vegetation. O'Rourke stated that those medians are in the jurisdiction of Kane County. O'Rourke further stated that he had spoken to the Public Works director in the past and he felt it was possible.

Chairman. English reiterated that Geneva was able to do this type of project. Vice Chairman. Schuetz stated that there would need to be funding. Chairman. English stated that the idea would be to get the plants donated. Christa, from Midwest Groundcovers, had mentioned

the possibility of donating plants in the past. Vice Chairman. Schuetz asked if they were thinking one type of plant or plant layout? Chairman. English stated that based on the Thompson Middle School project experience, it would be better to pick a few species that can be easily identified when these areas need to be weeded. Chairman. English suggested that the Commission members consider the idea for the next meeting before deciding to pursue the idea further. O'Rourke stated that once the Commission decides to investigate the idea further he could begin to look into the logistics such as jurisdiction and maintenance of these islands.

6. Announcement and Upcoming Meetings

Next CIC Meeting – Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

Chairman. English suggested that the March meeting be moved to March 9, 2011. The Commission agreed to move the meeting.

A motion was made by Schuetz and seconded by Dechene to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Motion Carried. Members Absent: Potts

Motion Carried