

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES, IL
ST. CHARLES CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION
May 7, 2014**

Members Present: Chair English, Potts, and Kane

Members Absent: Vice Chair Schuetz, Dechene

City Staff Present: Matthew O'Rourke
Karla McCleary, Recording Secretary

Others Present: Eric Larson

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was convened by Chair English at 7:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Amended Agenda to discuss Additional Business item before Discussion Items

A motion was made by Potts and seconded by Kane to approve the agenda.

Voice Vote: Unanimous; Nays: None; Members Absent: Vice Chair Schuetz, Dechene

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of minutes from April 3, 2014

A motion was made by Potts and seconded by Kane to approve the April 3, 2014 minutes of the Corridor Improvement Commission with minor grammatical changes.

Voice Vote: Unanimous; Nays: None; Members Absent: Vice Chair Schuetz, Dechene

Motion Carried.

4. Additional Business

A. Downtown Planters

O'Rourke stated the Downtown St. Charles Partnership (DSCP) will help solicit interest from local businesses. They are introducing their "Lively City" branding theme so this would be a good time to present a downtown planter program. O'Rourke said IDOT requires permits before any planters can be placed along Rt. 64. Kane asked if photos from Glen Ellyn displaying nice grouping were still available to refer to if needed. O'Rourke said he still had

them. Potts said she has looked at concrete containers in Sycamore and likes them because they are heavy so people cannot walk away with them and they also come in lots of different styles. O'Rourke suggested a 50/50 payment plan structure for consideration. IDOT may not charge for the permits if this is considered to be a City project.

5. Discussion Items

A. Corridor Grant – 1434 E. Main Street

Potts reviewed landscape plans that would include retaining a significant amount of grass for maintenance and ease of mowing. The front bed would contain Prairie Dropseed and Limelight Panicule Hydrangea with an Autumn Brilliance Apple Serviceberry in the back – all salt tolerant. Height of plantings would increase as you move closer to the house, encouraging visitors to come into the property.

One option being considered is the addition of 24" x 24" Rosetta Stone Dimensional Steps. Larson stated he likes more natural stone with an irregular configuration. Potts replied that a more natural look could be more costly.

Potts suggested a green and white landscape theme to compliment the 1920's green and white building.

Larson said there is a new wooden sign being constructed. It would be placed by existing electric approximately 5' wide x 10' tall. Potts suggested having a 3ft. radius of grasses around sign. O'Rourke said the 3 feet of bushes/perennials around the base can be included as part of the grant.

Potts asked if it is OK to put anything in the right of way. O'Rourke replied they could but it is up to IDOT to remove if they choose to do so.

Larson asked if there would be room for a bench and Potts said yes, absolutely. Larson stated he would like to block the view from the street that leads along the shaded, west side of the house. Potts suggested a Colorado Spruce or a high shade tree.

O'Rourke said it is OK if total comes in under the grant amount – it just cannot go over.

Chair English asked if a grant proposal could be prepared by the next meeting. Potts said yes, that can be done and that is what Larson would like as well. O'Rourke said he will try to get the request for grant approval on the June 9, 2014 Planning & Development Meeting agenda with City Council approval to follow at the June 16, 2014 Council Meeting.

6. Announcement and Upcoming Meetings

Next CIC Meeting – June 4, 2014

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Kane and seconded by Potts to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: Unanimous; Nays: None; Members Absent: Vice Chair Schuetz, Dechene