

City of Marco Island Florida

51 Bald Eagle Drive
Marco Island, Florida
cityofmarcoisland.com



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

3:00 PM

Community Room

Beautification Advisory Committee

*Chair: Marv Needles
Vice-Chair: Linda Scherzinger*

*Members: Michael Cory, Victoria Myers,
Julie Rogers, Ann Sepe, Ryan Sullivan*

*City Staff: Joe Parilli, Martha Montgomery,
Jose Muchati*

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Needles called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

(2) ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Member Cory, Member Myers, Member Rogers, Vice-Chair Scherzinger, Member Sepe, Member Sullivan and Chair Needles

(3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**(4) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION that this be approved as amended. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
7-0.

(5) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

ID 25-4941 Beatification Advisory Committee's of November 5, 2025

MOTION by Chair Needles, seconded by Member Myers, that the Beautification Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2025 be approved as Amended. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Member Cory, Member Myers, Member Rogers, Vice-Chair Scherzinger, Member Sepe, Member Sullivan and Chair Needles

(6) OLD BUSINESS

6A ID 25-4947 BAC Funding & Funds Allocation (Christmas Lights, Sponsorship, Outside Funding & Tree Donation Funding)

A summary of the current BAC funding and allocation was provided:

Income:

- Tree City USA from City Council \$25K
- Tree Donation S. Gray \$4K
- Christmas Donations \$4K total
 - Joey Oliverio \$1K
 - Rose Marina \$2K
 - MI Realtors \$1K
- Misc Donations for BAC Discretionary \$2K total
 - L Scherzinger \$1K
 - S Gray \$1K

Possible Expenses:

- Tree City Ideas (\$29K available)
 - Calusa Park Plan \$5K 11 Trees along Winterberry
 - Mackle Park PRAC \$21K 45 trees
 - Arbor Day \$1K
 - Victoria's Plan LeLand Way \$4000
- Misc (\$2K avail)

- *Marco In Bloom, Marco Nature Night, Signs, etc*
- *Christmas*
 - *Ridge Valley Exteriors Installation plus Amazon bows/ties \$3K*
 - *Extra Wraps for next year \$1K*

6B [ID 25-4949](#) Chair Needles Update on Tree City USA and Cul-de-sac Guide (M. Needles)

Tree City USA is a designation, which allows a community to be recognized for meeting national urban forestry standards. Potentially, renewing the Tree City USA designation allows for eligibility in grants and funding, while supporting environmental goals. Therefore, keeping the program visible and funded.

Chair Needles plan is to follow up with Joe on properly renewing the Tree City USA designation.

At the Committee's September 3, 2025 meeting, Chair Needles outlined the progression of his desire to improve the availability of information for residents who wish to beautify their neighborhood Cul-de-Sacs, while making it more visible and accessible for members of the community to access.

Overall, the Cul-de-Sac Guide is still a work in progress.

6C [ID 25-4950](#) Max Tree Height (V. Myers)

Regarding the Max Tree Height, Committee Vice Chair Scherzinger brought up a list of power-friendly vegetation that has height restrictions. Through the comparison of LCEC's and Marco Island's recommended tree list, trees that meet both height requirements and are suitable for the Bald Eagle area (where trees had been previously removed) were attempted to be identified.

The main action was to further discuss with the City Manager and City staff about who is responsible for replacing the trees removed on the Bald Eagle Area. And to get confirmation on whether the city would accept trees not specifically on the LCEC list as long as they meet the height requirements.

6D [ID 25-4952](#) Calusa Park Design & PRAC Proposal for Mackle Park (L. Scherzinger)

Regarding the Calusa Park update, the Committee had previously approved \$5,000 for tree planting along Winterberry at Calusa Park. It was reported that Vice Chair Scherzinger met with PRAC (Park and Recreation Advisory Committee) to collaborate on tree plantings.

Regarding the Mackle Park Proposal, PRAC has identified several areas within Mackle Park that could benefit from additional trees, including around the soccer field and the Mackle Lake. The Beautification Advisory Committee liked the idea of collaborating with PRAC on the Mackle Park tree planting plan, as it would make a visible impact in heavily used community park. Potentially, the Mackle Park tree planting plan can phased over multiple years depending on the availability of Tree City USA funding.

6E [ID 25-4953](#) Most Unwanted Trees (R. Sullivan)

Regarding the discussion on most unwanted trees, Committee member Ryan reviewed the city ordinance on prohibited and invasive exotic tree species. Through his review, he identified the carrot wood tree, which was not listed in the ordinance, even if it is an invasive species. As a result, he proposed adding it to the list of prohibited species in the city ordinance.

For the educational poster of unwanted trees, he mentioned making some minor changes, such as giving one of the more common unwanted tree species its own dedicated spot on the poster, rather than just listing it in the "dishonorable mentions" section.

Overall, the discussion was focused on the process of updating the ordinance and poster to be able to address invasive trees.

6F ID 25-4954 Arbor Day Plaque & Stand (M. Cory)

Regarding the Arbor Day Plaque and Stand, Committee Cory reported that the plaque has been installed and the tree looks good and is surviving well. He mentioned that he will bring pictures of the plaque and the historical markers to the next meeting so that the committee can see the locations. It was discussed to potentially organize a group visit to see the Arbor Day Plaque and the historical markers.

(7) NEW BUSINESS

7A ID 25-4961 Beach Access Beautification (J. Parrilli)

Kimley-Horn consultants presented a proposed improvements for the Marco Island public beach access and the City South beach access. For the existing conditions, they noted issues like worn out site furnishings, lack of shade, differential settling of pavers causing tripping hazards, and the need to address fencing and screening.

The proposed improvements included: replacing and upgrading site furnishings like benches, bike racks, and trash receptacles, adding murals and public art elements to blank wall spaces and fences, incorporating shade structures in select sunny areas, improving landscaping and replacing dead plant material, and upgrading the lighting to turtle-friendly bollards.

The committee discussed the priorities, with some questioning the need for extensive shade structures at beach access points. There was support for also focusing on safety, educational signage, and beautification elements like murals.

The consultants noted improvements could be phased based on available funding from the city and Tourist Development Committee.

Overall, the committee provided feedback on the priorities and asked the consultants to refine the concepts further before bringing back to the city council for approval.

7B ID 25-4955 Marco Nature Night (V. Myers)

Regarding Marco Nature Night, which is planned for February, Victoria indicated that they were running late on getting started. As a result, Committee Chair Needles volunteered to take the lead on Marco Nature Night.

7C ID 25-4956 Presentation - Leland Way & Marco in Bloom timeline (V. Myers)

Regarding Leland Way, Committee Member Myers presented a proposal to plant trees along Leland Way. The area has a very wide swale and overhead power lines, making it a good location for large canopy trees. Committee Member Myers recommended planting 7 shady ladies and 2 royal poinsettias, which totals 9 trees at an amount of about under a \$4,000 that matches the donation that they have. It was pointed out that there can be some challenges, such as watering trees in the swale areas.

Joe was tasked with looking for watering the trees through getting a bid from Superior Landscaping.

Regarding Marco in Bloom, Committee Member Myers presented a timeline and plans for the 2026 Marco in Bloom, such as launch at the January 15 City Council Meeting, applications that are due by March 10, judging around March 12-15, winners notified by March 20, and presentation to the City Council on April 6.

7D ID 25-4957 Coastal Breeze Article Update (M. Needles)

Regarding the Coastal Breeze article, Chair Needles mentioned that it was not intended to be written by him. At the meeting, he mentioned difficulty from a Coastal Breeze reporter to getting someone to write the article. As a result, the reporter asked him to write it.

The purpose of the article was to include and give credit to everyone's accomplishments, but not meant to come directly from the chair. Therefore, he stated that this update on the agenda was suggested by Jose, even though it was not originally intended to be there.

7E ID 25-4977 BAC Goals (M. Needles)

Regarding goals, Chair Needles noted that the Leland Way tree planting project seems to tie in well with the Mackle Park project, and there may be some cost efficiencies if they are done together. It was mentioned to follow up with Eric Condee about getting discounted holiday decorations to extend the pole wraps all the way to the bridge on Collier Blvd, rather than just every other one as was done in the past year. Overall, the goal for January is to revisit goals and fundings.

(8) STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**ID 25-4978 Fleet & Facilities Update (J. Parrilli)**

During Staff Communications, Joe relayed a message from Justin, to inform the following: (1) the Rotary Club of Marco Island will be placing Valentine's Day banners on the street light poles along Collier Blvd during February as part of their fundraising efforts, (2) the design for the banners is the same as last year (3) construction at the Barfield Intersection will limit the banner installation area to locations south of Yellowbird, and (4) there have been no other banner display requests for this time period.

(9) CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**ID 25-4962 City Council Communication**

The Waterways Committee is working on revising the fertilizer ordinance (18-64). In the ordinance, it mentioned the Beautification Advisory Committee as conducting two educational sessions per year.

Councilor Henry brought this up because she really did not feel that this responsibility did not really fall under the Beautification Committee's Scope.

As a result, a consensus was reached to allow the Waterways Committee to make amendments on the ordinance for the Beautification Committee to be removed from conducting two educational sessions per year.

Motion by Vice Chair Scherzinger, seconded by member Myers, to allow the Waterways Committee to make amendments on the ordinance for the Beautification Committee to be removed from conducting two educational sessions per year.

Yes: 7 - Member Cory, Member Myers, Member Rogers, Vice-Chair Scherzinger, Member Sepe, Member Sullivan and Chair Needles

(10) APPROVAL OF THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR MEETINGS**ID 25-4963 2026 Calendar Year Future Meetings**

MOTION by Vice-Chair Scherzinger, seconded by Chair Needles, that this

Discussion Item be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Member Cory, Member Myers, Member Rogers, Vice-Chair Scherzinger, Member Sepe, Member Sullivan and Chair Needles

(11) PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public came forward to offer comment at this meeting.

(12) NEXT MEETING: CONFIRMATION & ATTENDANCE**(13) PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**

ID 25-4964 Future Agenda Topics

(14) OTHER COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**(15) ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Committee, Chair Needles adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.

Jose Muchati, Fleet & Facilities Coordinator