

City of Marco Island Florida

*51 Bald Eagle Drive
Marco Island, Florida
cityofmarcoisland.com*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

3:00 PM

Community Room

Beautification Advisory Committee

Chair: Marv Needles

Vice-Chair: Linda Scherzinger

*Members: Michael Cory, Rhonda Gloodt,
Victoria Myers, Ann Sepe,
Ryan Sullivan*

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

(1) CALL TO ORDER

(2) ROLL CALL

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

Also Present

*CITY COUNCILORS
Deb Henry
Bonita Schwann*

(3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(4) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

From Item 7D Marco Nature Night (V. Myers) to Marco Nature Night (M. Needles)

*Additions to Old Business
- Mackle Park Tree Project (L. Scherzinger)
- Owl Part Concept (L. Scherzinger)*

*Additions to New Business
- Arbor Day (L. Scherzinger)*

MOTION by Vice-Chair Scherzinger, seconded by Member Sullivan, that the Agenda be Approved as Amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7-0.

(5) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

[ID 26-5200](#) Approval of the Minutes

MOTION by Vice-Chair Scherzinger, seconded by Member Sepe, that the Minutes be Approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7-0.

(6) ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR

[ID 26-5203](#) Election of Chair & Vice-Chair

Election of Chair

MOTION by Member Myers, seconded by Member Sullivan, that Marv Needles remains Chair be Approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7-0.

Election of Vice Chair

MOTION by Member Sullivan, seconded by Chair Needles, that Linda Scherzinger remains Vice-Chair be Approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7-0.

(7) OLD BUSINESS

7A [ID 26-5201](#) Leland Way Swales (V. Myers)

4:46 - The Beautification Advisory Committee discussed their goal about planting shade trees along Leland Way, while noting that Water & Sewer and LCEC utility policies restricts planting trees in rights-of-way with utilities. Members agreed that the current Water & Sewer list in which being heavy on cul-de-sacs is low impact. As a result, the committee is pursuing clarification and exceptions, if possible. Additionally, potentially moving to a formal Beautification Policy that emphasizes high-visibility and walkable paths along the cul-de-sacs.

7B [ID 26-5202](#) Calusa Park (L. Scherzinger)

16:45 - The Calusa Park discussion started with previously approved Beautification plan to approximately plant 9 trees along Winterberry. (However, one of the possible expenses previously organized by the committee from the \$29,000 available included Calusa Park plan to cost below \$5,000 with 11 trees planted along Winterberry). Although only one bid is needed, Fleet & Facilities director had obtained multiple bids and is working with the Garden Club on delivery and final placement. Vice-Chair Scherzinger is to resend the Calusa Park and Mackle Park tree plan to staff.

18:19 - Mackle Park Tree Project - Efforts between Parks and Rec Advisory Committee and Beautification include completing and expanding a tree-planting plan around Mackle lake and by the soccer fields. Vice-Chair Scherzinger reported walking the lake with Darren Spindler to locate trees and identify areas where trees are missing based on Dan Smith's \$25,000 donation plan. Fleet and Facilities Director, Joe Parrilli, confirmed that he is the correct point of contact.

19:12 - Owl Park Concept is a proposed destination from Parks and Rec Advisory Committee about having a designated small location where people can go see the burrowing owls, so people can be directed to one location rather than other residential areas.

21:42 - Arbor Day is an international holiday involving planting, nurturing, and celebrating environmental responsibility. April 24, 2026 is the date and Committee Member Cory would probably need to report on Arbor Day activities for the next Beautification Committee Meeting on April 1st.

7C [ID 26-5205](#) Christmas Lighting Issue (M. Needles & M. Cory)

22:33 - The Christmas Lighting issue is focused on expanding and organizing holiday pole lights from the Jolly bridge to the Savage bridge covering the whole commercial district. Additionally, resolving the issue of storage for the Christmas lights. Committee Member Cory reported that he has secured free storage in an off-island unit owned by a resident. Now that the Christmas Lighting issue has been solved, Chair Needles would like to put together a joint plan from the Beautification Advisory Committee, Chamber of Commerce, and Christmas Island style to find a way to fund and install additional pole lights. Also, Chair Needles also reported that Ridge Valley (the vendor who installed the Holiday Lights on North Collier Blvd) that they would charge the same cost per unit for the Christmas Lights labor.

7D [ID 26-5215](#) Marco Nature Night (V. Myers)

25:44 - Marco Nature Night (a Beautification Advisory Committee event focused on environmental education) is scheduled for March 5, 2026. Logistics of the event were discussed in detail, as well as Vice-chair Scherzinger leading publicity through Coastal Breeze, Marco Eagle and other social media methods, while Committee Member Sullivan agreed to post on Good Morning Marco.

7E [ID 26-5216](#) Marco in Bloom (V. Myers)

According to Committee Member Myers, the nominating committee generated a large amount of addresses, and she will be looking for to focus on "A" candidates instead of low-scoring entries. She

mentioned judging on March 14 at 9:00 AM to meet at City Hall, while recommending to bring a clipboard and score sheets. Victoria had obtained a quote to purchase signs for winners up to using \$350.00 from the BAC general fund.

MOTION by Member Myers, seconded by Vice-Chair Scherzinger, that \$350.00 of general fund be allocated to purchase signs for winners be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

(8) NEW BUSINESS

8A [ID 26-5206](#) Political Sign Ordinance (L. Scherzinger)

42:10 - The political sign ordinance is a discussion about prohibiting unattended political signs in public rights-of-way, while allowing people to stand and hold the sign, which is similar to Naples and Collier County. Additionally, it would still be allowed on private property. The proposal indicates that this is a beautification-related issue and that neither Naples nor Collier County had free-speech lawsuits.

8B [ID 26-5208](#) Event Policy Time Limit for Marco Nature Night (M. Needles)

58:21 - No substantial discussion on this topic

(9) STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

[ID 26-5209](#) Staff Reports

58:51 - Collier Blvd Banners - Staff reported that all 50 banners are in poor condition. Replacement would cost \$45 each at a total of \$2,250. Staff is trying to locate original artwork files and confirm specifications. Second, the Calusa Park Butterfly Garden, Fleet and Facilities director stated that new plants are being delivered around March 19 and he will meet with Susan to finalize staging and handoff. He informed the landscapers to not enter the butterfly garden, although they insist that it was not their crew. And finally, there was a discussion about the proposed BAC email address that allows communication with a direct committee member. However, policies need to be clarified in order to know for sure whether a BAC email address is allowed or not allowed.

(10) CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

1:09 - There were no comments from the City Council Members that were present.

(11) PUBLIC COMMENT

48:50 - Public commenter Terry Summerfield provided a historical background on the political sign ordinance. She warned that banning political signs, then it would have to given equal attention to the realtors and event signs in order to give content-neutral treatment.

(12) NEXT MEETING: CONFIRMATION & ATTENDANCE

(13) PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

1:10 - Vice-chair Scherzinger proposed bringing back "Proposed Agenda Topics" as Jim, the previous administrator for the BAC, used to do. Fleet and Facilities Coordinator Jose Muchati confirmed with Vice-Chair Scherzinger that he will bring back the Proposed Agenda Topics on the next meeting.

(14) OTHER COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

1:11 - Committee Member Myers reminded Marco in Bloom are going to be announced on the next meeting among other logistics. Committee Member Cory praised the City and the landscaping company that worked at Jane Hitler Park after the hurricane damage for replacing irrigation and re-planting. Chair Needles officially welcomed the New Committee Member, Rhonda Goodt, as a new member.

[ID 26-5207](#) Possible Updates & Reports

(15) ADJOURNMENT

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

Jose Muchati, Fleet & Facilities Coordinator