

CITY OF ALTON, ILLINOIS  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
ORIENTAL GARDEN COMMITTEE

The annual meeting of City of Alton Oriental Garden Committee was held at the Alton City Hall on September 17, 2015 at 3:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Sadiq Mohyuddin. Committee members present were as follows:

Dr. Sadiq Mohyuddin

Talat Mohyuddin

Joan L. Sheppard

Also present at the meeting were Michael Haynes, City of Alton Park & Recreation Department; Bob Barnhart, Alton Public Works Director; Helen Moore; Peggy Tavernier; and Charles L. Sheppard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The minutes of the September 3, 2014 meeting of the Oriental Garden Committee were reviewed and approved by the Committee.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PARK & RECREATION:

Director Michael Haynes reported that, in general, improvements at Gordon Moore Park have been set back because OSLAD grant funds due the City have been frozen by the State of Illinois due to the lack of a State budget. However, Bob Barnhart, Public Works Director, indicated that the water pump that supplies water to the oriental garden pond is being replaced. The pump is on order and would be delivered to the City in about four weeks.

REVIEW OF MEMO OF MEETING WITH BEN CHU (DIRECTOR, ORIENTAL GARDENS, MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN)

Dr. Mohyuddin & committee members reviewed the memo prepared after a meeting held at the Oriental Garden on September 21, 2014 with Ben Chu. The memo contained Ben Chu's observations and suggestions on improvements to the Oriental Garden.

Dr. Moyhuddin reported that improvements to the Oriental Garden should move ahead and that while funds are available to start improvements, pursuit of grant funds, donations, etc. should be ongoing and requested that the City assist the committee in these endeavors.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Joan Sheppard reported the balance in the Oriental Garden Fund is the initial \$12,500.00 in donations plus the interest accrued to the fund since its establishment.

OLD BUSINESS:

None except as stated in the Report of the Parks Director.

NEW BUSINESS:

As reported by Dr. Mohyuddin, improvements to the garden should go forward.

After review of Ben Chu's suggestions and discussion by the Committee, the following action was taken by the Committee:

1. Authorized Joan Sheppard to contact Ben Chu for his assistance in the selection and placement of flowering cherry trees in a grove on the hillside behind the gazebo at the Oriental Garden and to obtain pricing for purchase of the cherry trees.

(It is noted that the City has offered to assist in the planting of the cherry trees).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Dr. Mohyuddin announced the next meeting will be called as needed.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to be conducted by the Committee, Dr. Mohyuddin adjourned the committee meeting at 4:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

C. L. Sheppard  
Acting Secretary