**Beautification/Tourism Commission Minutes**

November 21, 2019

**Members Present**: Tom Sauer, Brenda Owen, Jo Ann Simmons, Bobbi Junkin, Shane Wagner, Donella Butler and Cynthia Lawder. Also present was City Councilman, Ray Allison.

**Pledge of Allegiance**: All members stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**: Minutes of the October 17, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Tom Sauer made the motion to approve; Jo Ann Simmons seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Linda Rader’s report was presented. The non-tax amount of this account is $23,163.42. The Stone Cottage fund is $758.61

**Correspondence**: None.

**Public Petitions**: None.

**Standing Committee Reports**:

Anti-Litter: No report.

Banners/Christmas lights: No report.

City Welcome sign: No report.

Farmer’s Market: No report.

Planters: The ‘Adopt-a-pot’ program is going on for the holidays. The Chamber will not sponsor a Christmas lighting contest this year.

Riverboat/Tour Programming: No report.

Take-Pride Award: The awards were presented to the Vasquez’s on Lincoln Blvd. and to the Hernandez’s on West Holmes. Terri Crum will put the pictures on our website.

Historic Preservation: No report.

**Special Committee Reports:**

Riverfront Improvements**:** The city removed the benches and anchor from the riverfront and put into storage. The benches will be put by the boat ramps when weather improves. We will try to find room for the boat anchor by the informational signs. Ray Allison advised that he would check to see if FEMA money would help us with the riverfront.

Evergreen Cemetery Self-Guided tour: No report.

**Committee Function Reports**:
Public Relations: No report.

City Council Update: No report.

Welcome Center Update: No report.

Randolph County Tourism: There is an article about Christmas on the River in the Illinois South brochure. Santa will arrive at the McClure’s house for the unveiling of an Elsie Seager statue, then go to the Library to meet with children.

**Old Business**:
Quote for Popeye statues QR quote: Brenda advised that we will need 14 plaques at a cost of approximately$17 each. Creation of the QR codes will be approximately $200. The project will not exceed $600.

Murals: Cynthia advised that there was no update on the mural on the Korando building. Brenda did not have an update on the Frazer remodel and mural.

**New Business:**

Linda Sympson has requested $225 for an ad about Chester in the Southern Illinois publication “The Scout”. Jo Ann made the motion; Cynthia seconded. Motion carried.

Quote for QR code plaques: Cynthia made the motion to approve expenditures not to exceed $600; Shane seconded. Motion carried.

Shane asked the members to think about advertising Chester (Popeye, River cruises, Shopping) on road signs, especially on the highway between Cape Girardeau and Perryville. He will check on pricing with Lamar sign company.

Next Meeting: January16, 2020 at City Hall. 6:30PM.
Tom Sauer made the motion to adjourn; Jo Ann seconded. Motion carried.