

Minutes

Biloxi Beautification Commission

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025

Biloxi City Hall, City Council room

Attendance

- **Commissioners:** Lara Bernich Alley, Stacey Eleuterius Barber, Susan Cain, Vincent Creel
- **Others present:** Councilman Jamie Creel, City Attorney Peter Abide, Councilman Anthony Marshall

Approval of agenda, motion made, seconded and approved.

Approval of Nov. 5, 2025 minutes, motioned, seconded and approved without revision.

Old business

- **White House Fountain** – City Attorney Peter Abide said the White House Hotel is reviewing an Adopt-a-Median form for the White House Fountain area. After discussion, commissioners agreed to acquire more information from Greg Stewart of the White House Hotel. It was suggested this endeavor could be the first of a formal Adopt-a-Median program and could set a standard for future beautification projects.
- **Adopt-a-Median.** City Attorney Abide presented forms for Adopt-a-Median and Adopt-an-Area. The forms were created by the Administration after a group wanted to adopt Todd Migue's Park. Forms are an agreement to "to facilitate the monitoring and collections of litter and debris and landscaping" on or near the roadways of the city or in common areas of the city. After discussion, commissioners agreed there is a need for an adoption program to include minimum standards, consistency in terms of planting (native species when possible), sustainability and adherence to an overall city beautification plan.
- **Review of current Beautification Commission ordinance.** Tabled, subject to call, pending full complement of seven beautification commissioners.
- **Adoption of commission bylaws.** Tabled, subject to call.
- **Adoption of Roberts Rules or Order** as manual of parliamentary procedure for meetings and commission proceedings. Motion made, seconded and approved.
- **Means to accept financial donations.** After discussion, it was decided that a tax-deductible fund, the Biloxi Beautification Fund, should be established for citizens, individuals, civic groups or businesses to make tax-deductible contributions. The fund would be controlled by the City Council, and the Beautification Commission would recommend to the council projects in line with a Comprehensive Beautification Plan and the commission's public outreach responsibilities. Attorney Abide suggested Greater Biloxi Economic Development Foundation as host for the fund.

New business

- **Website info and notices.** Commission information – purpose, members, meeting time, agendas, minutes – would be prepared by commission and forwarded to Public Affairs Manager for addition to city website. It was also suggested that an informational-only social media presence be established by the Beautification Commission, to work in conjunction with city Facebook page.
- **Election of acting officers.** With proper motions, seconds and approvals made, Lara Bernich Alley was elected chair, Stacey Eleuterius Barber as vice chair and Vincent Creel, secretary. “Acting” pending full complement of commissioners.
- **Meeting time, place:** Meetings will be the second Wednesday of each month, and additionally as needed. The next meeting is Dec.10, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., at Biloxi City Hall, City Council chambers. All meetings are open to the public.

Discussion items

- **Thank you, Harrison County.** Commissioners expressed thanks to the Harrison County Beautification Commission for inviting them to its Nov. 18, 2025, meeting. Harrison County commissioners provided guidance and insight, with a vow of cooperation.
- **Keep Biloxi Beautiful:** Members of the Harrison County Beautification Commission recommended that Biloxi become an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful.
- **Cardboard.** The Commission made notice of the Eighth Annual Christmas Cardboard Recycling Event, to take place Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025, from 8 a.m. to noon at five locations in Harrison County, including Edgewater Mall Parking lot in Biloxi.
- **Complaints, suggestions.** The city will soon be announcing a BConnect program to facilitate calls for service from residents, including litter complaints. Meantime, citizens should call Public Works Department at 228-435-6279.
- **Calendar of beautification events.** The commission should establish a calendar of beautification events, to include notice in the city’s monthly newsletter.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2025, Biloxi City Hall.

Submitted by Vincent Creel, secretary, Biloxi Beautification Commission