

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission

September 22, 2014
Monday, 12:00 p.m.

Aberdeen Florist
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission (ABC) met on Monday, September 22, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. for their Regular Meeting. The meeting was held at Aberdeen Florist. Present were Chairperson Elease Goodwin, Eldiweiss Lockey, Janet Peele, Stephen Greer, Planner Jae Kim, and Planning Director Pam Graham.

1. Stephen Greer was sworn in by Jamie Dockery as a member of the ABC.
2. Pam advised the group that the six new benches and trash cans had been placed at strategic locations in the downtown area, including the eating establishments as suggested by the commission. Locations include Kaycie's Diner, La Poblanita, Page Memorial Church, near A Light Source and Hit Point Hobbies, across from The Depot on Sycamore, and The Bakehouse.
3. The group discussed plants for the corners at Main and Poplar Streets where the two Chinese Pistache trees were planted. Several suggestions were made, including repeat-blooming daylilies and daffodils. It was mentioned that something evergreen, such as mondo grass or hypericum (St. John's Wort) could be other good options. Pam advised that she would look for available plants within this range and include seasonal color, but did not want to leave the spaces bare for too long.
4. Changing out the plant material in the planters for fall was briefly discussed. This will take place following the corner plantings.
5. Elease brought up the white fence that is on Main Street between Poplar and US 1. This has been discussed before as the fence needs painting, as does the fence at The Depot. A dark green paint color has been suggested. Planning staff is working with the local Boy Scout troop to see if these can be taken care of through an Eagle Scout project. Staff will follow up on this item. If the Boy Scouts are unable to do it staff will go to Public Works to see if they can help.
6. The area behind Plan B Furniture was discussed and staff was requested to see if it can be cleaned up. Also the shrubs around the dogwood in front of the store needs improvement. Staff will follow up on these items with Public Works.
7. Pam provided the group with copies of a simple spreadsheet for the ABC budget. The budget approved by the Board of Commissioners for the fiscal year was \$10,000 and very little has been spent to date. Pam will continue to provide the members with updated budget information as we move through the fiscal year. Additional funds were

requested but did not make it into the budget. The same request will be made for the next budget cycle.

8. The group discussed options for hiring someone to do landscape maintenance for ABC projects to insure that the money is well spent. Pam has spoken with a former colleague from NC State's Landscape Architecture program who operates a business in Southern Pines and he is willing to speak with the group about their options. No commitment has been made.
9. Pam also advised that she is making efforts to determine who is stealing from the planters. She also let the group know that planning has begun on this year's Reindeer Fun Run event, scheduled for December 6th.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Elise Goodwin, Chairperson

Pamela Graham, Secretary