

MINUTES
The Regular Meeting of the
Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission

March 18, 2014
Tuesday, 12:00 p.m.

Robert N. Page Municipal Building
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission met on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. for their Regular Meeting. Present were Chairperson Elise Goodwin, Eldiweiss Lockey, Janet Peele, Dene Moon, Dale Streicker, and Planning Director Pam Graham.

1. A motion was made by Elise Goodwin and seconded by Janet Peele to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2014 meeting. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

2. Planters – a discussion began regarding downtown planters, including the possibility of using hired labor for maintenance, but moved directly to a budget discussion. Chairperson Goodwin suggested that the ABC began thinking on a bigger scale with greater potential. She stated that she is very interested in making Aberdeen stand out.

Janet Peele mentioned that bringing back hanging baskets may be a good idea and a discussion on how to keep them watered through the summer began. She also mentioned that WRAL has an azalea giveaway each year that the commission should look into. Another idea was to create a Block Beautification Contest. The Garden Club usually sees beautification on one property but the rest of the block still remains unimproved.

Chairperson Goodwin stated that a presentation or statement to the Board of Commissioners was needed since we are coming up on budget time. Staff was asked to draft a statement to the Board regarding the Appearance & Beautification Commission's support for the Master Sign Plan, budgeting for Phase 2 of the Master Sign Plan, and coordination of the Lake Park sign.

Dale Streicker talked about Encore Azaleas and how effective they can be.

Eldiweiss Lockey reminded the group that there were a lot of azaleas at the Lake Park at one time, planted by the Garden Club, but they are all gone now.

Chairperson Goodwin stated that we needed a Downtown Master Landscape Plan to include signage and entrances to downtown. If we had the plan then we could implement sections of it each year. Janet Peele mentioned that we could start with a basic layout plan that shows locations that we have control over. The Village of Plainfield in Illinois has a plan that could be used as an example. The idea of using an intern from Sandhill Community College for maintenance was discussed.

Pam Graham mentioned a Christmas wreath decorating context she had seen done before and perhaps we could get our Business Guild on board with that this year.

Janet Peele talked about homeowner workshops that are done in Pinehurst that include items such as composting, pruning, plant selection, baskets/containers, organics, backyard veggies, attracting birds and butterflies, art in the garden, xeriscaping, rain barrels, and recycling. Ag Extension Agent Taylor Williams coordinates some of these.

3. The next meeting date of May 20th was discussed. The commission requested a Special Called Meeting for April 15th, to be held at The Depot.
4. Motion to adjourn was made by Eldiweiss Lockey and seconded by Elease Goodwin. Motion carried unanimously.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Elease Goodwin, Chairperson

Pamela Graham, Secretary