

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
Appearance & Beautification Commission

(Lunch Provided by Janet Peele)

October 15th, 2019
Tuesday, 12:00 pm

Robert N. Page Municipal Building
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Committee (ABC) met on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 12:00 pm for a regular meeting. The meeting was held in Town Hall. Members present were Chairperson Janet Peele, Teresa Beavers, Eldiweiss Lockey, Dene Moon, Eleese Goodwin. Members not in attendance were Amanda Robbins and Dale Steicker. Staff members in attendance were Planning Director Justin Westbrook, Senior Planner Kathy Blake, Planner Christian Haas, and Administrative Assistant Maria Carpenter. Lunch was provided by Janet Peele.

5. Call to Order

Chairperson Peele called the meeting to order at 12:04pm.

6. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Goodwin, seconded by Ms. Moon, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

7. Review of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting of September 17th, 2019

A motion was made by Ms. Moon, seconded by Ms. Goodwin, to approve the minutes from the September meeting as corrected. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

8. New Business

a. Fall Plantings – PLANNING / IMPLEMENTATION

Chairperson Peele stated that she is having 40 flats of pansies delivered next week and stated that they would go into the beds by the town sign, the millstone, the library flagpole, the bed on Poplar St, beds on the NE corner of Sycamore and Main Streets (by directory sign), and beside Gary's across from the library. Chairperson Peele stated that for all that it would take 105 flats going by the 8" spacing per square footage Ms. Robbins measured. Ms. Peele stated that she has 40 flats coming, those could go in and then go from there. Ms. Peele stated that in late fall, she is interested in getting camellia trees, and also buying trailing pansies for in the boxes. Ms. Peele stated that the pansy mix going in the ground will be white, primrose, deep yellow, and maybe a little tangerine. Ms. Peele stated that the plants are to be delivered to her backyard and she will water them until it is time to plant them.

Director Westbrook asked when JB should start planting. Ms. Peele stated that JB had leveled the beds and she told him to wait on putting in the compost. Ms. Peele stated that JB can do the compost the week of October 21st in the beds discussed. JB can also

take the dead limbs out of the tree in front of the Methodist church, cut out the dead half of the sky pencil holly along the green depot fence, and cut off and trim the rest of the dead limbs in that area.

Ms. Peele stated that JB can do the compost next week, and then do the planting Thursday or Friday next week. When doing the compost JB should spread 3 inches over all the surface, then run a tiller through it until it is mixed in about 6" deep.

There was some discussion on drip irrigation controllers and Director Westbrook passed around information on 2 kinds that Ms. Peele researched. Ms. Peele stated that one is programmable and operates on a 9volt battery, and costs \$28, the other is only programmable to the length of time it is on, but turns on by daylight, and runs on AA batteries, and costs \$21. Ms. Peele stated that the cheaper one may be better with less moving parts to break. Director Westbrook suggested going with the simple one that we can control.

There was some discussion on which one to purchase and how many. It was agreed upon by all to purchase 8 of the \$21 Melnor water controllers.

Ms. Peele stated that the water lines in the beds would need to be looked at for repairing or upgrading also. Ms. Peele stated that JB could do it if he did the assessment between the fall and spring plantings. Director Westbrook asked what the standing of the ones we have now is, as JB probably won't have time to do the water lines now. Ms. Peele stated that she didn't know, JB would have to look at them.

b. Sycamore Tree Trimming – UPDATE

Ms. Moon gave an update on the Sycamore Street tree trimming. Ms. Moon stated that it looks good, and would be nice to get some beds under them. Ms. Peele asked what they wanted in there. Ms. Moon stated that anything would be good, there is some kind of ground cover there now, but it is half dead.

c. Banners

Director Westbrook stated that staff is moving forward with new banners and trying to coordinate it with the DAAB. Director Westbrook stated that when staff has a slogan, etc, they will get back to ABC. Senior Planner Blake asked if the town had ever done Christmas banners. Director Westbrook stated that we've had snowflakes up with the banners. Planner Haas stated that he would try and come up with some banner ideas. Dr. Beavers stated that when Jen Gallimore was here, they had talked about looking at a big banner that went across the road. Ms. Peele stated that there wasn't really enough money for that then. Ms. Blake asked if there was money to replace the snowflake lights. Ms. Peele stated that she thought all had agreed to replace the snowflakes at an earlier meeting. Director Westbrook stated that Public Works houses them and he didn't know what condition they were in. Director Westbrook stated that Planner Haas can check them out in December and see what condition they are in, and then we can replace those necessary. Ms. Peele stated that she thought it was agreed to add to existing lights and increase the number of them. Senior Planner Blake said yes, it was agreed to add to what we have and keep the same design. Planner Haas stated that he will look at the design and talk to the DAAB.

d. Upcoming Downtown Events

Planner Haas stated that the Bread Bowl is coming up on November 9th and gave a brief description of it. Planner Haas stated that the night before, November 8th, will be the Holiday Open House coordinated by Lily Rose and ETC. Planner Haas stated that November 30th is Small Business Saturday, and that the downtown businesses will come up with some kind of marketing to get people to spend their money locally. Planner Haas stated that December 7th is the Reindeer Fun Run, with about 2000 people expected to run, and December 14th is the Christmas Parade.

e. Holiday Décor

i. Location of Tree for decorating

Planner Blake stated that last year a tree wasn't decorated that was normally decorated. Director Westbrook stated that he couldn't remember when Public Works normally did the lights, but when did they want it done? Planner Blake stated it was normally the end of November before Thanksgiving. Ms. Peele stated that they do it early, usually before events like the Holiday Open House. Director Westbrook asked if the board wanted the 3 trees that were limbed to be illuminated. Ms. Peele stated that they would, but would need a bucket truck. All agreed that they would like them illuminated.

ii. Other

9. Old Business

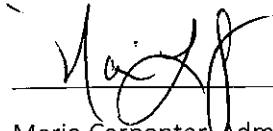
a. Depot/Museum Landscaping & Fence Painting - UPDATES

Planner Haas stated that there were no updates at this point. Planner Haas stated that there has been some discussion on renovating the caboose and that the model railroad club has expressed a lot of interest in this. Planner Haas stated that he will check with Rockfish as to what they spend on their caboose. Planner Haas stated that he is trying to think of creative ways to utilize the caboose. Ms. Goodwin stated that there used to be meetings held there. Ms. Peele stated that the original Malcolm Blue used it for an office. Planner Haas stated that Adriana Janker had an idea of using it do to a Polar Express fundraiser. Planner Haas stated that Town Manager Sabiston was interested in this idea and Ms. Janker was asked to put a list together as to what would be needed to do this. Planner Haas suggested that perhaps it could be a joint venture between Friends of the Library and Parks & Rec or something.

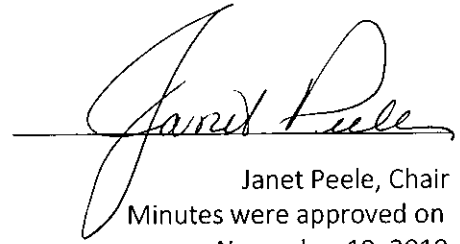
10. Other Business

11. Adjournment

- a. Ms. Goodwin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Beavers, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 1 pm.



Maria Carpenter, Admin. Assistant
Minutes were completed in draft form
on October 15, 2019



Janet Peele, Chair
Minutes were approved on
November 19, 2019