

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
Appearance & Beautification Commission

(Lunch Provided by Planning Department)

November 19th, 2019
Tuesday, 12:00 pm

Robert N. Page Municipal Building
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Committee (ABC) met on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 12:00 pm for a regular meeting. The meeting was held in Town Hall. Members present were Chairperson Janet Peele, Teressa Beavers, Eldiweiss Locky, Dene Moon, Elease Goodwin. Members not in attendance were Amanda Robbins and Dale Streicker. Staff members in attendance were Planning Director Justin Westbrook, Senior Planner Kathy Blake, Planner Christian Haas, Administrative Assistant Maria Carpenter, and Jim Brinkman. Lunch was provided by the Planning Department.

1. Call to Order
Chairperson Peele called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.
2. Approval of Agenda
A motion was made by Ms. Goodwin, seconded by Ms. Locky, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.
3. Review of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting of October 15th, 2019
A motion was made by Ms. Goodwin, seconded by Dr. Beavers, to approve the minutes from the October meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

4. New Business

a. Fall Plantings – PLANNING / IMPLEMENTATION

Senior Planner Blake gave an update on the fall plantings and what was done around town. Irrigation controls were not installed. Mr. Brinkman stated that there were only 2 that could be done, but they were too low and needed to be raised to attach the controllers. Chairperson Peele stated that if the town was ever going to have irrigation, some plumbing needed to be done. Chairperson Peele stated that Mr. Brinkman can go over bed by bed what needs to be done, but irrigation needs to be figured out before the summer plantings. With the current water system in place, some plants have been lost, and the sprinklers are just beating the flowers down.

Chairperson Peele stated that 109 flats of pansies have been planted in the beds, and 98 individual trailing pansies have been planted in the black boxes.

b. Holiday Décor

i. Sycamore Tree Trimming – UPDATE

Chairperson Peele stated that the trees have been trimmed and are looking good, pine needles have been laid under them and it looks much nicer. Chairperson Peele stated that maybe holiday decorations on the trees could be on next year's list, if not done this year.

ii. Location of Tree for decorating

Director Westbrook stated that the tree by the end of the Depot is the one that Parks & Recreation does, and that tree lighting is on December 5th.

Chairperson Peele asked if checking out the holly tree at Parks & Recreation could be put on Mr. Brinkman's list.

iii. Other

Director Westbrook stated that snowflakes were supposed to be put up today, and should be done by Thanksgiving. Mr. Brinkman stated that the town started putting up decorations by the Depot today.

c. Upcoming Downtown Events

Senior Planner Blake stated that the Reindeer Fun Run is on December 7th, the Board Appreciation party is on the 2nd, and the Christmas parade is on the 14th.

d. Banners

Director Westbrook stated that the banners are on hold for the moment, a good tag line and design are needed, then will come up with options. Ms. Goodwin stated that the board needs to look at several different designs before making a decision. Director Westbrook stated that "Live here, Work here, Play here" had been suggested, but something besides Shop the Crossroads is needed.

Chairperson Peele stated that one of the lights by the town sign is out.

e. Downtown Street Lamps

Senior Planner Blake showed some examples of the different street light options available and asked for opinions on the different styles. Everyone seemed to like the Traditional style the most. Director Westbrook stated that the problem with those is that, similar to the ones currently on Main St, if they don't get cleaned, they turn yellow and unattractive after a few years, and they are difficult to clean. Director Westbrook stated that the Teardrop style is only connected by 3 screws and are much easier to clean, and the Sanibel would be the easiest to clean. Senior Planner Blake stated that Duke Energy may have more choices available.

5. Old Business

a. Depot/Museum Landscaping & Fence Painting – UPDATES

Director Westbrook stated that the fence painting is on the plan, but some projects have been put on hold for the UDO rewrite. Ms. Goodwin stated that the Boy Scouts did the painting last time and the board paid for the paint. Director Westbrook stated that would be fine, but it may be better to replace some of the fence where needed and not just paint. Senior Planner Blake asked if someone knew who to contact for the Boy Scouts. Chairperson Peele stated that she did and would check to see if they would be interested.

6. Other Business

Dr. Beavers stated that there is now a second dumpster in front of the mural that is blocking the bottom of it. Director Westbrook stated that we would have to see who it belonged to.

Chairperson Peele stated that the Garden club has an appearance award for commercial areas and thought it would be an inspiration for businesses around town to make their landscaping look nice if the Town wanted to participate. Senior Planner Blake stated that Pinehurst has an appearance award. Director Westbrook stated that it sounded like a fine idea, but before coming up with guidelines, it would need to be decided who will handle it and finances. Chairperson Peele stated that the Garden club would solicit volunteer services, but perhaps the Town could make some publicity for it and put it in the newsletter. Chairperson Peele stated that the Garden club was talking about doing it and wanted to know if the Town could sponsor it. Senior Planner Blake asked if it would have a sticker or something to put in the window. Chairperson Peele stated that they are hoping for a permanent sign or plaque that could be moved from business to business.

Ms. Goodwin asked about money left in the budget. Director Westbrook gave a brief update on the budget and money left for projects. Director Westbrook stated that the board still hasn't come up with a project, part of it could be used for water/irrigation, other half for banners. Director Westbrook stated that the board should make a list of priority items and then staff can get ballpark estimates for each, then the board can make a decision.

List of priority items was determined to be (in order of importance): Irrigation assessment, new banners, refacing municipal building sign, and a mural by the Galaxy.

Discussion of the 2020 calendar schedule and whether or not to have a meeting in December 2019.

A motion was made by Ms. Goodwin, seconded by Ms. Moon to adopt the 2020 meeting calendar to be the 3rd Tuesday of the month at noon, with no meeting in the month of July. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

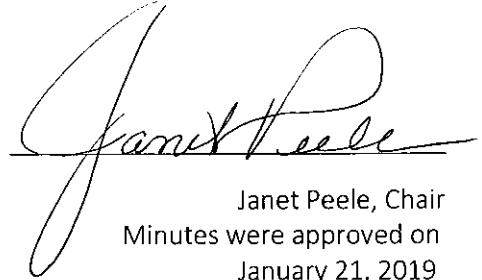
A motion was made by Ms. Moon, seconded by Dr. Beavers, to cancel the meeting in December 2019. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Moon, seconded by Dr. Beavers, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.



Maria Carpenter, Admin. Assistant
Minutes were completed in draft form
on November 19, 2019



Janet Peele, Chair
Minutes were approved on
January 21, 2019