

## MINUTES

### Regular Meeting of the Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission

January 20, 2015  
Tuesday, 12:00 p.m.

Town Hall  
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission (ABC) met on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. for their Regular Meeting. The meeting was held in the conference room at Town Hall. Present were Chairperson Elease Goodwin, Eldiweiss Lockey, Dene Moon, Janet Peele and Dale Streicker. Staff in attendance was Planning Director Pam Graham and Planner Jae Kim.

1. Call to Order.
2. Recap of 2014 Projects.

Pam discussed multiple projects that were completed in 2014. During the last ABC meeting held in November, the trees at the Depot were decorated with streamers and lights. In addition, the hollies along US 1, twenty-three to be exact were lit with LED lights purchased from Lowe's. Rickie Monroe, Public Works Director was credited for his assistance in getting the lights and plantings done in early summer and right before Christmas. Progress Energy and NC DOT were also acknowledged for their support with the Town of Aberdeen in getting some projects completed along US 1.

Benches and trash receptacles (12 each) were purchased with downtown development budget funds and strategically placed throughout downtown. Three additional planters were made available for downtown. During the spring/fall, the planters will be changed out and dressed up with fresh greenery in it.

A dilapidated white fence on Main Street located behind the Plan B business was removed. It was considered to be part of an Eagle Scout project, but it was determined that the better option was to have it taken down. There were discussions on what could be planted in its place.

3. Anticipated Projects for 2015.

Completion of US 1 Planting Plan was discussed. Dogwoods are planned to be installed in spaces between trees in the spring on US 1. There are some existing dogwoods there now. Mark Thompson for NC DOT was contacted in regards to the project as he was new to it. Mr. Thompson was supportive and would help to make the project happen. A letter was suggested as a token of appreciation to be sent to him.

Painting of the fence along the Depot was discussed. This is a possible Eagle Scout project for a member of Troop #800 from Aberdeen. The proposal has been submitted for review and approval of the Boy Scouts Council. The project would be coordinated by the Eagle Scout applicant acting as the general contractor in the project. The color of the fence would be determined by the ABC and funds from the Planning Department would pay for the paint to be used. An update to the Eagle Scout application will be provided when available.

Chairperson Goodwin asked about Phase 2 of the Master Sign Plan. She asked if the town would see additional gateway signs similar to the three that were installed last year. Director Graham stated that she brought the proposal before the Board of Commissioners (BOC), but was asked to include it in the

next year's budget. February would start the new round of budget discussions for the next fiscal year and it would be included as expenditures for the Planning Department.

Chairperson Goodwin addressed the sign for the Lake Park building and insisted that the ABC needs to have input on the proposed sign. Members of the ABC addressed that the sign should be cohesive with the other gateway signs, especially since the sign will have a significant presence on US 1. ABC members continued with discussions on possible trees to be planted in front of the Lake Park building. There were discussions of what Pinehurst did for their Christmas tree celebration this past year. A deodar cedar was suggested and talks included issues that could develop with such a tree.

The corner building owned by Page Memorial Church was discussed. Questions were raised if the building was for sale and if the asking price was known.

Dale Streicker asked about Ray's Mill Pond. Director Graham stated a grant was awarded in the past to redevelop the area into an educational center. She discussed some of the work to be done at the park under the grant. The town manager took over administering the grant to meet obligations and timelines on the grant.

The discussion on whether to hire or contract someone to do maintenance on projects for the ABC was brought up again. Dene Moon stated that all the planters were an investment including the flower, plants and trees that were paid from the budget. This item is to be discussed again at the next meeting.

#### 4. Budget Update.

The most recent ABC budget was discussed with a spreadsheet showing all the line-item expenses for FY 14-15 that had been expended. The total amount left to be obligated prior to June 30, 2015 was expressed to the ABC.

#### 5. Other Business.

Chairperson Goodwin discussed the crepe myrtle that was trimmed at the downtown Post Office. She wanted to know who was responsible and if Public Works did any of the work. She also wanted to follow up with Rickie Monroe if they were in the town's right of way.

Director Graham informed the ABC that the town was put on a list for possible NCDOT funding for a mid-block refuge crossing on US 1 across from the Lake Park. She believed the project would not be started until 2016-2018. It would require a match from the town to receive funding for the project.

The next scheduled meeting for the ABC was for Tuesday, February 17, 2015. Dene Moon volunteered to make arrangements for lunch.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

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Elease Goodwin, Chairperson

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Pamela Graham, Secretary