

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission

March 17, 2015
Tuesday, 12:00 p.m.

Town Hall
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission (ABC) met on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. for their Regular Meeting. The meeting was held in the conference room at Town Hall. Present were Chairperson Eleese Goodwin, Eldiweiss Lockey, Gail Clay, Janet Peele and Dale Streicker. Others in attendance were Planner Jae Kim, Community/Downtown Development Planner Daniel Martin, Streets and Grounds Superintendent Jim McRae, Parks & Recreation Director Adam Crocker and Mike Bassett.

1. Call to Order.
 - a. Item #6 was removed from the agenda to be brought back next month.
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting, January 20, 2015
3. Lake Park Sign – Discussion & Review.

Staff is requesting a recommendation from the members to take to the Board of Commissioners. Three different designs were presented, two separate designs from ACSM and one from Parish Signs. Mike Bassett, a representative for Parish Signs was present to answer any questions in regards to their sign. In addition, Parks & Recreation Director Adam Crocker has been working on this project and was in attendance to answer questions as well.

Eldiweiss Lockey made a motion to select design A.1 submitted by ACSM for the Lake Park sign. Seconded by Gail Clay.

Vote: Unanimous.

4. Ray's Mill Pond Sign – Discussion & Review.

Staff is requesting a recommendation from the members to take to the Board of Commissioners. Four designs were submitted by Sandhills Signs for Ray's Mill Pond. Parks & Recreation Director Adam Crocker briefly discussed the project. ABC member Dene Moon was not present but her opinion was noted before the other members.

Gail Clay made a motion to select Option 3 for Ray's Mill Pond.
Seconded by Janet Peele.

Vote Unanimous.

5. Discussion of Holiday Tree for Lake Park Grounds.

The ABC discussed the idea of having a permanent Holiday Tree for the Lake Park grounds. Parks & Recreation Director Adam Crocker stated that he was open to the idea and he would consult with his Parks and Recreation Board next month. Afterwards, he will reach out to the Planning Department and ABC with an update.

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.


Eleese Goodwin, Chairperson


Pamela Graham, Secretary