

**SOUTHERN PINES APPEARANCE COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 14, 2014**

**Present:** Carol Haney, Birtha Shaw, Bud Bell, Bruce Fensley, Ed Garrison, Leslie Habets, Gene Maples

**Guest:** Marty Tillman, Vince Zucchini, Joyce White, Mike Fields, Cos Barnes

**Staff Present:** Pete Morris, Cory Albers, Debra Fisher, Vi Janz, Adam Lindsey, Reagan Parsons

Carol Haney asked if minutes had been read. Leslie Habets made a motion to approve, Bruce Fensley seconded, approved.

**DOWNTOWN CROSS WALK:** Carol Haney introduced Marty Tillman the District Engineer from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT). Marty provided patterns for the cross walk project and asked the commission to provide a choice of patterns and submit an encroachment for them to approve. The DOT would anticipate the pattern that the Appearance Commission pick would fit within the white markings. The pattern should be about 6' wide and the markings are about 6' wide. The cross walk is approximately 6' wide including the outside lines so the pattern may need to be cut to fit inside the white markings. Cory Albers said he had measured the width of the crosswalks and the ones on Broad Street are 6' but the ones on Pennsylvania Avenue are 8'. Adam Lindsay asked about the schedule for repaving the downtown area. Marty said they had just repaved last year. He said it is on a 3 or 4 year list. Cory said that on Pennsylvania the age of the pavement would not be conducive to the stamped patterns. Adam said that what the commission was doing today was to just take a look at some options. The cost could range as high as \$40,000. The authority of this group would be to decide on style and appearance. Town Council would make the final decision as to whether it would be accepted. Adam asked if the DOT would be willing to help with some of the expenses for this and Marty said with the recession such as it has been they are really tapped out for now. Adam said that the thermo plastic sample would last about 6 to 8 times longer than the painted. The painted would only last approximately a year to 3 years. Where the thermo is heated and seals into the asphalt. Carol asked if the town had the ability to apply something like this. Cory said they could not do the stamping; however, they would be able to apply the thermo plastic. The cost just for supplies to do the 6 intersections would cost around \$20,000. The product that the town would be able to purchase and put down would be smooth, not texture. Carol asked if any of the contractors were local. Cory said Winston-Salem and South Carolina. The Appearance would like to pursue the project and hope if it is approved to have done before the U.S. Open. They will try to have the information ready to present to the Town Council Work Session on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January. Carol asked if there were some areas close by that they could go take a look at. Leslie Habets said she had some locations and they could discuss as to where they would like to go.

**MEMBERS AREAS OF INTEREST:** Carol Haney mentioned that she had sent out some ideas of committees for each member to look over.

**PLANTERS:** Bruce Fensley said he would like to work with the planters. He said he met with Dee Johnson, head of the Sandhills Community College horticulture program in regard to doing a project together with the planters. Dee said they were just too busy. He then got up with a master gardener, Linda Hamway. She does a lot of planters. He said Linda is willing to do a training session with volunteers and have each person do 2 containers. The Town would have to reimburse them for their

plants. Bruce said in a couple of weeks he would present the proposal to her officially and then they would solicit volunteers. He also asked to see if they could be reimbursed for the plant material. Pete stated that we had already budgeted for the plant material this year. He said he was thinking they would do 12 – 14 planters and would alternate the materials. Reagan said we would need to get with finance to see if it is ok to reimburse. It might be better if they gave us a list of plant material and let us pick up. Bruce said she goes all over the state for plants so it would be better if we could reimburse. He suggested also a limit per planter that would be allowed.

**ADOPT-A-STREET:** Leslie Habets said we have 14 groups doing the Adopt-a-street. She suggested that each member take a registration form or 2 and pass them out to neighbors, friends, etc. She has started working on 2 letters, 1 a welcome letter and the other a thank you for joining the adopt-a-street. Carol Haney asked what the goal was and how many they wanted. Bruce Fensley asked if once a month they could get a table set up at the Farmers Market. Reagan Parsons asked if they had a map and Pete Morris said they do. Reagan suggested getting copies out so they know what has been taken and what is available. Pete did say that we encourage people to adopt a town road; however, the state does have a good program as well. Gene Maples asked to get a list of the current volunteers. Carol thanked everyone and also Bud Bell for helping with this project. Leslie would like to have an early reminder for Arbor Day so it could be planned a little better. Pete Morris said he would like to do the last Friday in March, which is March 28<sup>th</sup>. It is a better time to plant trees.

**SPRUCING UP:** Carol Haney asked if Gene Maples would be interested in chairing the Sprucing up Southern Pines. He said he would and asked about the signs that were put out. He stated that they are very difficult to read from very far away and that there is too much information to be able to read without stopping. Bud Bell mentioned that the sidewalks are very messy and asked if there was a way of sweeping them. Gene said that should be a merchant's job. Pete said it was going to be very difficult to provide. He did say he would like to encourage people to sweep and not blow. Carol suggested to Bud to get in touch with someone from the Southern Pines Business Association. She said if he would ask them to sweep and put in our trash cans and not in the streets would be helpful.

**LITTER SWEEP:** Carol Haney asked Ed Garrison what area he would like. She suggested getting in touch with Keep Moore County Beautiful and see if we can't combine the litter abatement. Pete Morris asked if they could do this in conjunction with the NC Litter Sweep. It is twice a year, in the spring and fall. Gene Maples suggested using the Boys & Girls Scouts.

**POTENTIAL NEW MEMBER:** Carol Haney had asked Joyce White and Cos Barnes to come to the meeting to see what we are doing. She is trying to find some new members. Leslie Habets had a name. Birtha Shaw asked if Joyce Jackson would need to resubmit an application. She was going to be seeing her and would check.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **LANDSCAPE/TREES/PLANTERS**

**TREE NEWS:** Pete Morris said there had not been a lot of business regarding trees. Pete, Geoff Cutler and Vince Zucchini did check with the Elks Club homeowner and agreed that they could take down 2 trees. There are 2 contractors working now and it is hard to find qualified contractors to work due to the restrictions on insurance. The opportunity we have for Landmark, Landscapes is an area along W. Pennsylvania to take down, replant, prune and add all new trees. The money has been appropriated. Bud Bell was asking about a row of trees along Midland Road by the Carolina Eye. Reagan Parsons said it was in Pinehurst and they are doing a water/sewer project. Pete mentioned that the Tree Committee would be meeting soon.

## **GENERAL APPEARANCE:**

**BUILDING AND PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS:** Birtha Shaw asked again about the house at 883 S. Gaines Street it's a resident but they do a lot of car repairs there. Pete Morris said he visited with Joy Richardson and they are very frustrated. It has gone to the Town Attorney. She asked about the upholstery building across from Bill Smith Ford. She said looking in the windows it is cluttered. She was wondering about sending them a letter and asking to put up the little wood blinds or something to cover the window. Carol Haney said the window was probably needed for additional light. Carol said she didn't think we could control what is done on the inside. Birtha also wanted to send to the people that have had problems in the past a letter that spring is coming. Just a simple reminder to continue to keep it spruced up. There is also a house on 500 block of W New Hampshire that needs to be demolished. Reagan Parson said he would look into that.

**WELCOME SIGN:** Carol Haney said that David McNeill had made a couple of suggestions for placement of the new sign. One is on Hwy 22 near the traffic circle. The other area he suggested was across from Cracker Barrel on Hwy 15-501 going north. We have a larger sign we just made that will replace the one on Hwy 1, then we will need another one the size of the one we are taking off Hwy 1. There is still a smaller sign that will be at the Train Station. Reagan Parsons was approached last week about some sort of sign on Hwy 1 somewhere in the vicinity of the Welcome sign going south by a non-profit organization.

**BANNERS:** Carol Haney showed one of the banners. She said David McNeill would like to present Denise, the designer. Carol suggested presenting one of the larger ones and Reagan Parsons asked if it could be tabled until discussed.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

**UPDATES:** Carol Haney mentioned there was a nice article in the paper about the new banner. Mac Morris has some camellias to give to the town. Also, the Garden Club just donated \$2,000 for bathroom improvements at the Train House. She would like to have some pictures taken with these people for public relations.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Adam Lindsay mentioned that it is of good interest to the town to have someone on the staff to take the minutes for the meeting. Vi Janz is going to be transitioning out of the position and Debra Fisher from Public Works will be trained to take over.

Carol Haney asked for adjournment, Leslie Habets made motion, Birtha Shaw seconded, adjourned.

Next meeting will be February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by:  
Vi Janz  
Town of Southern Pines