

**SOUTHERN PINES APPEARANCE COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**May 25, 2021**  
**VIA ZOOM**

**Board Member Present:** Teresa Lenahan, Birtha Shaw, Melissa Hall, Paula Parke, Katherine Schirmer, Kate Shinkwin, Gigi Walter and Cynthia Dowdy (via zoom)

**Staff Present:** Jessica Roth, Cory Albers, Graham Purcell, Jeff Grey, and Debra Fisher (via zoom)

Teresa Lenahan asked for any edits or comments to the proposed minutes for the March 23, 2021 Southern Pines Appearance Commission meeting and entertained a motion for approval. Birtha Shaw made a motion to approve second by Cynthia Dowdy. Motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

Teresa Lenahan asked if there were any questions regarding the committee reports. Gigi Walters stated that she would like to motion for an amendment in the Southern Pines Appearance Commission Publicity and Street Christmas Tree Report. Gigi Walter stated that Our State Magazine replied to her request to consider a proposal to visit Southern Pines in 2021 for a Christmas edition of Our State Magazine in 2022. Our State Magazine stated they will continue to consider a proposal to visit Southern Pines in 2021 for a Christmas edition of Our State Magazine in 2022 that would showcase the downtown street Christmas trees.

**Sprucing Up Southern Pines:** Melissa Hall stated that she has received only one nomination for the Sprucing up Southern Pines Awards. Discussion ensued on the process and notifications for The Sprucing Up Southern Pines awards. Teresa Lenahan stated for everyone to submit their entries at the next work session meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Teresa Lenahan commented that the Appearance Commission may want to think about changes needed for future Sprucing Up Southern Pines awards.

**Camelia Way:** Kate Shinkwin stated that she has a letter to send to the business's that are using the Camelia Way dumpster area. Kate Shinkwin commented that hopefully the letter will bring the issue to their attention. Graham Purcell stated that since COVID the dumpsters that were normally emptied three times a week were only being dumped once a week and now that everything is going back to normal they should start being picked up three times a week. Graham Purcell stated he spoke with Anthony Parks and he is willing to hand deliver the letters to the businesses. Teresa Lenahan entertained a motion to approve the letter to send to the businesses that are using the Camelia Way dumpster area. Gigi Walter expressed concern that the Appearance Commission may want to wait on sending out the letter. Birtha Shaw

made a motion second by Melissa Hall. The motion passed with seven in favor and 2 against.

**New Business:**

**Southern Pines Appearance Commission Budget:** Jessica Roth stated that the proposed 2021-2022 budget starts July 1, 2021. Jessica Roth stated that this is just a proposed budget. The budget will be voted on June 8, 2021. The line items are for Holidays 1,500, for lighting and decorations, Arbor Day \$800 for ads and supplies, Sidewalk planters \$4,000 for the yearly sidewalk plantings, Holiday Setup \$5,000 to rent lift and make electrical repairs, Sprucing Up Southern Pines and Adopt-A-Street \$700 for publicity and Adopt-A-Street signs, Trashcans \$7,000 for trashcan replacements, Tree Program / Landmark Landscapes \$10,000 Replacement Benches \$5,000, Christmas wreaths upgrades \$5,000.

**Flower Pots:** Cynthia Dowdy commented that the owner of the Southern Prime Steakhouse stated that he would like to have a large flower pot in front of his business and he is willing to pay for the cost. Cynthia Dowdy stated she followed up with the owner of Southern Prime and explained the statutes of what type items are allowed on the Town's Historic public areas. Cynthia Dowdy stated that she told the owner of Southern Prime that the Southern Pines Appearance said no to his having a large flower pot in front of his business. Cynthia Dowdy stated she shared with him that by placing a flower planter in the middle of his block, in front of the restaurant, would throw off the sequence in which the flower planters were designed for, placing the planters at each corner of each block downtown. Cynthia Dowdy stated that she complimented him on his current plantings on the wall of his building. Mr. Smith stated that he may buy a planter himself and place in front of his restaurant. Cynthia Dowdy stated she discouraged this because, potentially, that would be breaking Town ordinance per Town Planner, Suzy Russel's document, "Site Furnishing" which I gave him a copy of.

With no further items to discuss Teresa Lenahan entertained a motion for adjournment. Katherine Schirmer made a motion for adjournment seconded by Melissa Hall.

Submitted by:  
Debra Fisher  
Town of Southern Pines