

SOUTHERN PINES APPEARANCE COMMISSION MINUTES
Regular Meeting
September 22, 2020

Board Members Present: Birtha Shaw, Melissa Hall, Kate Shinkwin, Paula Parke, Susan Suggs, Katherine Schirmer, and Teresa Lenahan (via phone)

Staff Present: Cory Albers, B.J. Grieve, Graham Purcell, Jeff Grey, Reagon Parsons, and Debra Fisher

Guest Present: Chris Dunn, and Jane Murry

Birtha Shaw asked for any edits or comments to the proposed minutes for the July 28, 2020 Southern Pines Appearance Commission meeting and entertained a motion for approval. Katherine Schirmer made a motion, second by Susan Suggs to approve the minutes from July 28, 2020 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Landscape / Trees / Planters: In Teresa Lenahan's report she reported we are coming to the end of the Spring/Summer flowers in the street side planters and hanging baskets. The plan for Fall plantings is to remove all Spring/Summer plant material (trailing vinca) but leave the evergreens. The Town will be planting a variety of heuchera and large flowered pansies around the evergreens. Teresa Lenahan stated that she and Katherine Schirmer are going to be in touch with the Moore County Master Gardener Volunteers to see if they would be willing to help design and plant the flower pots every year. Teresa Lenahan report that the Tree Subcommittee had received (2) two tree removal requests for (3) three pine trees that appeared to be healthy and not hazardous. Removal was denied. A cedar tree located near the rear driveway appeared unhealth and roots were disturbing the property owner's driveway. The cedar tree was removed. There were (39) thirty-nine crepe myrtles planted on Brucewood Rd. in January 2020 and appear to be doing well. Teresa Lenahan reported that the Tree Subcommittee is preparing publicity for tree planting and ordinances to include; tree removal requests on Town right of way's, downtown street tree progress and completion, and Brucewood Rd. planting.

Adopt-A-Street: Birtha Shaw reported that she had (1) one new application for May St and E. Delaware to E. Indiana Ave from the Catholic Youth Group that will bring our total to (21) twenty-one applicates. Cory Albers stated that the streets that the Catholic Youth Group are wanting to adopt are state roads and they would need to reach out to the state to adopt those streets. Cory Albers stated that he has reached out to the Town I.T department and has asked them to include the adopted streets in the Town's GIS software so that residence and staff can see streets that need to be adopted and which ones are already adopted and by whom.

Building and Property: Birtha Shaw reported that she has submitted (4) four troublesome properties to the Town Code Enforcement officer, Lisa Webb, for assistance. (1) one property is in the process of obtaining bids so that the lawn can be cleared and cleaned; (1) one property owner is away serving our country and his lawn has been mowed; another property needs grant assistance

for home and land improvements. Reagon Parsons stated that there are grants available for housing renovations and the property owner will need to apply for an application, have home owner's insurance, and live in the home to receive the grant.

Old Business:

Sprucing Up Southern Pines: Birtha Shaw stated that the Sprucing Up Southern Pines award certificates need to be sent to the recipients. Graham Purcell stated that he would be retrieving the yard signs and would give the award certificates to the recipients at that time.

Camila Way Updates: Cory Albers reported that the Camila Way project should be completed by the end of the year. Cory Albers stated the dumpster corral needs to be constructed and new benches and new trashcans have been ordered, and the parking lot lights have been powder-coated.

Arbor Day: Kate Shinkwin asked if the Appearance Commission wanted to do anything for Arbor Day and give recognition to the Garden Club for donations and possible plant trees at the new school in the Spring. Regan Parsons suggested doing a photo opt or place a video on the Towns web site recognition for the Garden Club and also information about the Appearance Commission Arbor Day celebrations.

New Business:

Carolina Horse Park Foundation: Jane Murry stated that the Carolina Horse Park Foundation which is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of open space for equestrian and recreation purposes would like to have the painted ponies project in the Town of Southern Pines again this year. Jane Murry reported that the painted ponies will be placed in the same locations as last year with an additional (2) two horses (1) one will be placed on Broad St. and one (1) in front of the train station.

Murals: B.J. Grieves showed the Appearance Commission a power point presentation for approval, to move forward on creating a mural project in Southern Pines. Chris Dunn of the Moore County Arts Council stated the benefits of the mural project would be an increase in foot traffic, tourism, business, and culture. B.J. Grieves stated the project would need to be approved by the Town Council to move forward and will be presented on September 28, 2020. B.J. Grieves stated the possible mural committees would be the Southern Pines Appearance Commission, West Southern Pines Civic Club and, Southern Pines Business owners. Chris Dunn stated we will choose four to five property's and the funding will come from the Town, grants, donations, and businesses. B.J. Grieves stated that the murals must meet zoning regulations and must meet architecture standards and will stay out of the historic district and the 15/501 areas. B.J. Grieves stated they will hold a public hearing as well because it is a project.

Christmas Theme / Decorations: Birtha Shaw stated that she has not heard anything regarding the Christmas Trees for the upcoming holiday. Cory Albers reported that the Christmas trees will be delivered to the Town the week of November 16th, the week before Thanksgiving. Teresa Lenahan commented that the Appearance Commission needs to review what decorations we have in stock and see if there are any decorations that we need to replace.

Public Relations Updates: Katherine Schirmer reported the Pilot newspaper ran an article on the Southern Pines Sprucing Up Awards. Katherine Schirmer suggested that we should put out an article to be placed in the Pilot regarding the trees downtown and give the Town citizens information regarding tree removals on the Town right of ways. Regan Parsons stated that they should contact the Pilot about reporting the information regarding the Town's policy on tree removals. Kate Shinkwin stated that the Town should also create an information packet to begin giving out to new Southern Pines residents.

With no further items to discuss, Birtha Shaw entertained a motion for adjournment. Paula Parke made a motion for adjournment Seconded by Teresa Lenahan. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Appearance Commission will be November 24, 2020.

Submitted by:
Debra Fisher
Town of Southern Pines