



**DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2016**

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Lisa Chalian-Rock. Members present: Mayor Gloria Hines, Lisa Chalian-Rock, Ronda Brown, Reverend Coleman Cannon, Howard Garland, Becky Ishman, William Jackson, Jimmy White and Susan Bridgers.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Reverend Cannon praising God and thanking Him for His guiding us in all we do.

Minutes of our November 19, 2015, meeting, were reviewed by those in attendance, with a Motion for approval and unanimous approval by all.

Lisa Chalian-Rock gave the Treasurer's Report and provided a written copy to all in attendance, which also included the budgeted items. Ms. Brown requested that certain adjustments be made as to allocations for clean-up and plantings, which will be done. Ms. Rock also advised the Board, as noted on the written material provided, that the Board had received two (2) Palmetto Pride Grants for the City, which amounts and for what projects designated also noted on written information. The City and the Kalmia Garden Study Club have received these funds and will begin these projects. Ms. Rock also requested that the Board choose a day to have a presentation ceremony for the Cashua Street Trees on the Square, and the date of March 9th, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. was chosen. Invitations will be mailed to those who have contributed for those pots.

Ms. Ronda Brown presented the report from the Kalmia Garden Study Club and advised that trees were going to be placed in smaller pots on Pearl Street to accommodate the size of the sidewalks. The sweet pansies will be replaced in April and they have been a source of beauty for our citizens and visitors. Ms. Brown, Ms. Laura Burns and Mrs. Myra Bumgarner have shown great dedication in planting and maintaining the pots on the Square and on Cashua Street, braving both the heat and the cold to keep these fresh and attractive, and the Board appreciates their labors of love.

Our Spring Clean-up day has been confirmed for April 16, 2016, and we will coordinate with Darlene Jackson, who chairs the local Clean Up America Day Committee to work together on projects. Specific inquiry was made as to tire recycling and the Board was advised that there was a limit of four (4) tires per individual, which would be received at the City Street Department. Mayor Hines inquired as to the status of the Wells Park irrigation matter, and Ms. Brown advised that this had been repaired and the Park would be a part of our Clean-up Day projects. As a part of our Clean-up day conveniences, the Chamber will be contacted to request the use of their restroom facilities for our clean-up participants.

Ms. Rock had previously asked the Board to review the 2016-2017 Beautification Plan provided to them in November, 2015, and rank each of the items in the three (3) categories as to importance. The results had been tallied and presented to Council in January and were discussed with the Board at this meeting. It was the consensus of the Board that it would be best to allocate funds to a particular project for the most impact, such as focusing on the benches or the bike racks, and Mayor Hines suggested that these be highlighted with, perhaps, our Darlington Logo to make them more noticeable. She also addressed the issue of various street and/or directional signage needing to be refurbished, and we will go forward to check on this.

Mr. White and Mr. Jackson, each, brought to the Board's attention the need for the landscaped areas along the By-Pass corridor to be maintained, and Mr. Jackson volunteered to contact the owners or managers of these properties about the possibility of doing so. Motion was made by Mr. White, with a second by Ms. Rock, with unanimous Board approval. Rock said that these property owners/managers would, of course, be recognized in the newspaper and possibly a dinner showing the appreciation for their contributions.

Ms. Rock also discussed with the Board the condition of our Christmas decorations and the necessity of repair or replacement. This will be discussed further at our meeting next month, with the possibility of acquiring a lighted banner for display at the entrance to the City. This would require dedicated poles for attachment thereto, and we will obtain additional information on this detail.

Ms. Brown noted that, after talking with the postmaster about the mailboxes on the Square needing a fresh coat of paint since the FedEx box had recently been replaced, she was happy to report new mailboxes have been installed. She said any citizen can request a worn mailbox be replaced to the Post Office.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m. with closing prayer by Reverend Cannon, and our next meeting will be March 16, 2016.

Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary