



## **DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2015.**

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order by Lisa Rock. Members present: Lisa Rock, Ronda Brown, Laura Burns, Reverend Coleman Cannon, Howard Garland, Susan Bridgers.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Reverend Cannon thanking God for this beautiful season and also for guiding us as we go forward in caring for the beauty of His blessings.

Minutes of our January meeting, so beautifully prepared by Mrs. Rock, were reviewed. Laura Burns made a Motion for approval, seconded by Susan Bridgers and unanimous approval by the Board.

Lisa Chalian-Rock gave the Treasurer's Report, as attached hereto, as well as upcoming projects.

Ms. Laura Burns presented the Kalmia Garden Study Club report in the absence of Mrs. Howle, and advised the Board that the Club continued to prepare for the Eastern Sandhills District Garden Club Meeting in March and many businesses were participating by providing goodie bags for attendees. She and Ms. Brown advised that Mrs. Carolyn Abbott has reviewed the landscape plans for plantings in the Memorial Center/City Administration Garden and made slight revisions. This plan will be provided for review. Ms. Brown also shared with the Board that Mr. Albert James had expressed interest in donating dogwoods for planting and Cherry trees would be planted from the corner of Warley Street and Cashua down Cashua to the corner of Russell Street and Cashua. Ms. Brown advised that the "Trees on the Square Ceremony" on February 13, 2015, at the Veterans' Memorial site was well attended and that the thirty-one containers on the Square, planted with cherry trees and evergreens, were dedicated, with containers also to be placed along Cashua, as well as streets adjoining the Square, as interest continues to grow. She also presented two (2) examples of benches for placement on the Square and other locations. Motion was made by Ms. Burns, seconded by Mr. Garland, that she be allowed to check with distributors to ascertain the best price and shipping costs and then choose the bench after receiving this information. The Board gave unanimous approval.

Mrs. Rock discussed with the Board the Clean-Up Day to be held Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. Our Civic Clubs will be taking part, and Mr. Jimmy White has contacted the Library, Bramlett's Small Engine and Garland's Wrecker Service to join in this project. Ms. Burns suggested that this be publicized as a community-wide clean-up, with participants also cleaning their own yards and properties, as well as those of shut-ins unable to do so. This is an excellent idea and will be integrated in our publicity. It was suggested that banners might be placed around town announcing this Clean-Up Day, as well as inserts into Church bulletins, and as Reverend Cannon suggested, also placed in the City Water Bills, if possible. Mrs. Rock will check on this, since they are generated in Columbia. We will also check with businesses with digital marquees to see if they would post announcements of the Clean-Up Day on their marquees.

Mr. Garland advised the Board that our City Police Department canvassed the Square and adjoining Streets to determine which lights were in need of replacement and had the necessary pole identification information to be provided to Duke Energy Progress today. He also advised that Council had approved a study on having LED Lighting for our street lights and that hopefully this brighter lighting could be obtained in the near future. Further information is being obtained as to availability of the best wattage, what conditions must be met and specific requirements for most effective use.

Mr. Garland also shared with the Board that John Matthews had expressed interest in the Boy Scouts placing benches at some of the various PDRTA bus-stops. Mrs. Bridgers will contact the Matthews family to request a picture of the bench being considered so this can be seen by the City Planning Division for its determination as to whether it would be of complimentary design to the other benches being considered for placement in the Square area. Mr. Garland also will contact the DOT concerning the retouching of the painting areas on the curbs.

Mrs. Rock also informed the Board that the City will be replacing the sidewalk at the corner of Orange and Main Street where damage occurred when demolition was in process when constructing the Veterans' Memorial, as well as sidewalk repair in the areas where the new water line was installed. At present, the fire hydrant on the Square cannot be moved due to other underground infrastructure.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m., and our next meeting will be March 18, 2015. Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary