



DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2016.

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Lisa Chalian-Rock. Members present: Lisa Chalian-Rock, Ronda Brown, Laura Burns, Reverend Coleman Cannon, Howard Garland, the new Building Inspector Alex Gainey, Becky Ishman, and Susan Bridgers.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Reverend Cannon thanking Him for this glorious day and asking for His continued guidance us in all we do to preserve the beauty and blessing of His creation.

Minutes of our August meeting, were reviewed by those in attendance, with Motion for approval by Ronda Brown, with a second by Becky Ishman 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. As this report was reviewed by the Board, Ms. Brown made Motion that the Three hundred (\$300.00) dollars of the contingency funds be allocated to replace the damaged pot on the Square. This was seconded by Ms. Ishman and unanimous approval by the Board.

Ms. Ronda Brown also advised that the Kalmia Garden Study Club had allocated Five hundred (\$500.00) dollars from raised money in their recent fundraiser to be used towards the entrance to Bi-Lo or at the Washington Square Apartments entrance. The Kalmia Garden Study Club has also graciously and generously donated One thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars for the purchase of another bench. She also gave an updated on the benches which were installed on the Square and presented a drawing as to their placement. Further discussion was had on the placement of the benches, and Howard Garland also suggested that a newspaper distribution box be placed at bench locations on the Square, and he is to contact the News & Press to see if they would be interested in working with us on this placement.

With respect to the Rose Garden Grant, this was used to install a bench in the Rose Garden at one of the paths.

Mrs. Chalian-Rock asked that the Board continue to give thought on the next nominees for the Residential Pride Award to be made next month. A list of nominations was provided to the Board with a request that these be seen prior to next month's meeting.

Fall Clean Up Day to be held on Saturday, October 22, 2016, in conjunction with the Kiwanis Club Clean up the Square day. Ms. Brown shared with the Board that the replacement plantings at Wells' Park had now also died due to lack of water and that it would appear that it would be futile to replace these. Suggestions were made for drought tolerant plantings, but upkeep continues to be an issue. Mr. Garland suggested contacting personnel at Georgia Pacific to see if they would partner with us on the maintenance of this property. However, in the interim, we will replace pine straw during Clean-Up Day in the front portion to make it a bit more attractive to passing traffic, since this area is at a main entrance to the City.

Ms. Brown also reminded the Board that Arbor Day will be on December 2, 2016, and the Kalmia Garden Study Club has donated Two hundred (\$200.00) dollars to use toward the purchase of a tree for planting at the celebration on that Friday. This amount will be added to the Ninety-five (\$95.00) dollars remaining in the budget for that purpose. The Board was asked to be considering suggestions for a location for this planting.

Mr. Garland updated the Board on the Median on South Main Street in front of Mitchell Josey Funeral Home, which will now be maintained by the City. He also advised that SCDOT would begin sidewalks from Avenue F out to Walgreens, which should be completed in 2017, as well as replacing the bridges on North Main Street, as well as Lawson Road in this same time frame. Also, the lighting at Wal-Mart will be replaced with LED lighting for safety purposes.

The choice for the design of the Bike Racks was discussed and will be revisited at a later date.

The Stop Sign Neighborhood Project was tabled until the next meeting of the Board.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 a.m., next meeting is October 19, 2016.

Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary