

SOUTHERN PINES APPEARANCE COMMISSION MINUTES
Regular Meeting
February 23, 2016

Present: Carol Haney, Birtha Shaw, Penelope Ham, Leslie Habets, Ellen Slusher and Jeff Kelly

Staff Present: Debra Fisher, Adam Lindsay, and Jack Taylor

Carol Haney asked if minutes had been read. Penelope Ham made a motion to approve, Leslie Habets seconded, approved.

Landscape/Trees/Planters

Tree Concerns: Penelope Ham stated that the Tree Committee denied a tree removal request for Pennsylvania Ave. Jack Taylor stated that they looked at the new trees planted on Broad St. and in front of the library. The trees had the old grates around the base of them, so they took those off and Jeff Grey is going to place bark around them. Out of the six trees that were planted on Broad St. three of the nuttall oaks have slime flux and one tree has died. The ones with the slime flux should self-correct as they grow. Adam Lindsay requested that when the contractor plants the trees at Etalia that they replace the one that died as well. Jack Taylor responded that he would have the contractor replace the dead tree.

Etalia Tree Planting: Jack Taylor stated that six longleaf pines, and two crepe myrtles will be planted at Etalia's on W. Pennsylvania once 811 No Cuts releases the locate request.

General Appearance

Elder Heart: Jeff Kelly stated we met with Elder Heart and gave them instructions on what we are looking for including more detailed plans. They need to show existing plant materials, name the plant materials they want placed there, and minimize the amount of grass that they had shown in the plan. They were fine with all the suggestions we made and we are waiting on the revised plan. Adam Lindsay commented that he will be meeting with Reagan Parsons and Elder Heart as a follow up. They are working on getting the word out in order to raise needed funds. Jeff Kelly questioned the timing of the landscaping versus the sculpture. They could do the landscaping and then be waiting another year for the sculpture so I believe it would be in everyone's interest to bring that up.

Adopt-A-Street: Leslie Habets stated that they have not had any new adopt-a-street members. Carol Haney suggested that the Appearance Committee adopt Memorial Park Ct. Penelope Ham made a motion and Jeff Kelly 2nd all in favor to adopt Memorial Park Ct.

Midland Road Update: Adam Lindsay stated that they had meet with the Steering Committee and the consultants regarding the Midland Rd. project study. For the long term it looks like we are looking at some traffic circles, fully signalized interchanges, standardizing the speed limit, and possibly right only turns off of US 1 onto Midland Rd. Getting rid of the excessive amount of crossovers was universally accepted as the biggest needed change. We advised against high maintenance landscaping. The

consultants are taking the feedback and will come up with a recommended plan in the next couple of months which they will take to each of the towns and county for an approval.

Building and Property Improvements: Birtha Shaw reported that she had spoken with the owner of the BP station about the lot beside his station. He plans to clean up the lot and make it more presentable.

Pinecrest High School Circle: Ellen Slusher stated that she spoke with Tiffany Key who is in charge of the Horticulture Dept. at Pinecrest High School and she commented that they may consider the project for next year. Adam Lindsay stated he would like to have a tentative plan so we have some sense of what their working towards and a commitment from them to maintain the circle. Ellen Slusher responded she will be meeting with them next week and will ask them for a plan. The Town placed stones at the site now which already received positive feedback.

Arbor Day: Penelope Ham stated that Arbor Day is on March 18th at 10:30 at the Southern Pines Library. Urban Forestry will have someone there to present them with an award. Ms. Nash's 3rd grade class from Southern Pines Elementary will attend as well and Cos Barnes will read a short story or poem.

Sprucing Up Southern Pines: Birtha Shaw stated she had received a couple of pictures for the Sprucing up Southern Pines awards. Adam Lindsay asked when they would need to make their decision. Birtha Shaw stated we made our decision last year at our April meeting. Adam Lindsay commented that will be good so I will be able to present it to the council's May meeting.

Five Year Plan: Adam Lindsay stated that he has requested another \$10,000 for next year's project and he will need a plan showing what the expense is for in order to get approval and every year we will need to revisit the plan to make any necessary changes. Lindsay will use the \$10,000 from this year towards Morganton Rd median. Carol Haney stated that beautification efforts needed to be made at many of the entrances coming into Southern Pines. Adam Lindsay stated that they should identify what areas were the key visual points in town and come up with a plan on how to address them.

Budget: Adam Lindsay stated that he will be meeting with Reagan Parsons in March to discuss the budget and then it will go to Council in April.

New Members: Carol Haney asked everyone to speak with anyone who may be interested in joining the committee.

New Business: Adam Lindsay stated that at the corner of Morganton and S. Valley there is a property that planted some trees in the right-of-way illegally that will need to be removed. Adam Lindsay stated he will coordinate with Jack Taylor, and Joy Richards for the property owner to be notified that the trees must be moved.

Adjournment Birtha Shaw motioned and Ellen Slusher seconded.

The next meeting will be at 1:00pm on March 22, 2016.

Submitted by:
Debra Fisher
Town of Southern Pines