

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION MINUTES

June 6, 2012
Greenville, NC

The Community Appearance Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room #337 of City Hall located at 200 West Fifth Street.

Community Appearance Commission Members Present:

Mark Abboud, Vice Chair	Jeffrey Scott Johnson	Bill Whisnant
Myron Caspar, Chair	Diane Kulik	Fred Wright
Brenda Diggs	Joanne Robertson	

Community Appearance Commission Members Absent:

Perry Kachroo Jeffrey O'Neill

Staff Present: Sandy Gale Edmundson, Secretary; Niki Jones, Economic Development Project Coordinator; and Laura Searfoss, Ombudsman/Neighborhood Liaison

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commission members pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: JUNE 6, 2012

Motion was made by Mr. Jeffrey Scott Johnson and seconded by Mr. Bill Whisnant to approve the June 6, 2012 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 2, 2012

Motion was made by Mr. Jeffrey Scott Johnson and seconded by Mr. Mark Abboud to approve the May 2, 2012 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

June Community Appearance Commission Awards and New Nominations

The Commission voted for Mellow Mushroom to receive the community appearance award.

The Commission nominated Polly Piland's State Farm Office Building and the entrance sign at Shamrock Patio homes.

Neighborhood Improvement Grants

Ms. Searfoss: Neighborhood associations are being encouraged to identify creative projects that will benefit their neighborhoods. There are two award cycles: Fall and Spring. The maximum award is \$750.00. The Community Appearance Commission awarded 62 neighborhood improvement grants to 40 individual neighborhood associations totaling more than \$22,242.00. Awarded as Spring 2010 grants but used FY 11 – 12 funds:

Arlington Park's street lights (District 4);
The Oaks entrance sign and lighting (District 5);
The Gates entrance sign repair (District 5); and
Trees planted along Firetower Road by Cherry Oaks North (District 4).

The FY 11 – 12 funding equals \$7,500.00. Funds award to date equals \$3,000.00. Funds that are remaining through 6/12 equal \$4,500.00. For the Spring 2012 cycle, five applications have been submitted requesting \$3,600.00.

Arlington Park: Install streetlight for a total project cost of \$1,318.40 with an amount requested of \$750.00.

Mr. Whisnant: Who pays light bill?

Mr. Jones: The City pays the light bill.

Mr. Caspar: There are three streetlights, and they would like to add two in between the existing three. This is a field and Arlington Park is set back. Twelve on them are on the street and other ten are down the alley.

Mr. Whisnant: Does Public Works recommend under guidelines that the lights meet City standards.

Ms. Searfoss: We do not ask Public Works what they think. Public Works is the only department that can install these lights. They are willing to install them. Residents want more lighting.

Mr. Johnson: The residents are asking for a partnership, and I like that.

Ash Circle (Treetops): Landscape common area for a total project cost of \$950.00 with an amount requested of \$750.00.

Greenfield Terrace: Repair entrance sign and landscape for a total project cost of \$771.00 with an amount request of \$750.00.

Ms. Diggs: The neighborhood really needs this grant.

Carolina East (Belvedere and Club Pines): Entrance sign for a total project cost of \$794.00 - \$919.00 with an amount requested of \$750.00

Mr. Caspar: Where is the brick wall?

Mr. Abboud: Entrance is at Club Pines.

Red Oak: Repair entrance sign for a total project cost of \$477.00 - \$600.00 with an amount requested of \$600.00.

Ms. Searfoss: Sign was destroyed in wreck.

Mr. Whisnant: Did the motorist have liability insurance to cover the sign?

Ms. Searfoss: I don't know who hit it, because it was an overnight accident.

Sign a Memorandum of Understanding that requires grantees: to use funds within one year of disbursement; to provide pictures and receipts to the Neighborhood Liaison upon project completion; and to present their completed projects to the Commission.

The 2012 – 2013 Work Plan items: revise guidelines to reflect a change award limit changes; and revise guidelines to allow for a large project to receive a higher amount of funding.

Ms. Searfoss: The guidelines say this is how evaluated so adding additional requirements on how to evaluate are not appropriate.

Ms. Robertson: The Commission is not here to micromanage.

Mr. Jones: Adding more layers to guidelines would come later not during these applications.

Ms. Searfoss: Fairness is needed across the board.

Mr. Caspar: Brick signs need minor repair, so application does not need all of the money.

Ms. Searfoss: Evaluate the applications based on the information received.

Mr. Caspar: The Commission had extensive discussion during last round of applications.

Mr. Jones: The subcommittee use to review the applications prior to Commission review. The Commission should look at having the subcommittee like in the past.

Mr. Caspar: Is there any further discussion?

Motion was made by Mr. Jeffrey Scott Johnson and seconded by Ms. Joanne Robertson to approve the Neighborhood Improvement Grants. Motion carried unanimously.

Roadside Maintenance

Motion was made by Mr. Bill Whisnant to defer this item to the Work Plan discussion and seconded by Mr. Mark Abboud. Motion carried unanimously.

Updates by Subcommittees

Mr. Caspar: At the September meeting, the Commission will need to elect a Chair and Vice Chair. I would like to nominate Mr. Mark Abboud. I have enjoyed my time as Chair and I appreciate the support of Staff.

Updates by Staff

There were no updates.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Jeffrey Scott Johnson and seconded by Ms. Brenda Diggs to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Niki S. Jones
Planner

