

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION MINUTES

February 2, 2011
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	Valerie Guess	Joanne Robertson
Myron Caspar	Perry Kachroo	
Dana Coles, Chair	Albi McLawhorn	

Community Appearance Commission Members Absent:

Brenda Diggs	Troy Jensen	Redeem Robinson
--------------	-------------	-----------------

Staff Present: Sandy Gale Edmundson, Secretary and Niki Jones, Planner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: FEBRUARY 2, 2011

Motion was made by Mr. Myron Caspar and seconded by Mr. Albi McLawhorn to approve the additions to the February 2, 2011 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Add Adopt-A-Street (two applications), Comment from Mark Abboud and Tree Preservation Commission appointment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 5, 2011

Motion was made by Mr. Albi McLawhorn and seconded by Mr. Mark Abboud to approve January 5, 2011 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

February Community Appearance Awards Voting and Nominations

The Commission voted for the South Tar River Greenway.

The Commission nominated the Colony Tire on Dickinson Avenue and Memorial Drive.

Town Common Master Plan Update

Mr. Jones: The Recreation and Parks Commission and the Redevelopment Commission have given their approval of the Town Common Master Plan. The Commission is being updated on the plan. No action is required by the Commission. This is an informational presentation. The park consists of 20 acres. First Street can survive as a two lane road rather than a four lane road. There will be additional parking and parking on First Street as well. There will be an interactive garden, a spray ground and walking trails. The entranceways will be improved to make it a destination. Improvements will be made to the fishing pier and to the boat access. Recognize the former Sycamore Hill Baptist Church on the southwest corner of the site. Plan for a civic building on the site that can house a cultural museum, art galleries, cafes and other small retail spaces. This building is also planned to contain event space that can be leased from the city for special events. Relocate the amphitheater closer to the water to capture waterfront views and create more usable space in the middle of the park. Create an educational center that will provide classes, lectures and other opportunities to engage the environment and the fine arts. A river taxi has been discussed as well. Staff is excited about approving plan.

Ms. Guess: What will the children do?

Mr. Jones: There are educational center and splash area for kids. There are play areas for football and soccer.

Ms. Robertson: I do not understand why road would be reduced to two lanes.

Mr. Jones: Reducing the number of lanes is aesthetically pleasing, safer and provides more parking.

Ms. Robertson: I think the Town Common is nice the way it is.

Ms. Guess: I know the Town Common is trying to attract more people.

Mr. Caspar: Presently, the Town Common is an ugly space. The concept plan is worthwhile, because it puts the amphitheatre in a place where it makes more space.

Ms. Guess: How long will all of this take?

Mr. Jones: The plan will be done in phases, because there is no money.

Mr. Abboud: The Town Common will pull people into the Uptown Area.

Mr. McLawhorn: This will cost millions of dollars. The desire to do it does not mean it is going to happen.

Mr. Kachroo: The plan has already been approved.

Biennial Awards

The Biennial Awards Committee (Troy Jensen, Albi McLawhorn and Myron Caspar) met and have recommendations for winners over the last two years. The recommendations are:

Cupola Building
Winslow's
Convention Center
Nathaniel Village

Motion was made by Mr. Albi McLawhorn and seconded by Mr. Myron Caspar to approve the Cupola Building, Winslow's, the Convention Center and Nathaniel Village as Biennial Award winners. Motion carried unanimously.

Adopt-A-Street Applications

Mr. Jones: The Street Hawks would like to adopt Third Street from Reade Street to Memorial Drive. The contact person is Willie McLawhorn.

Mr. Jones: Two requests have been submitted for the same adopt a street: Arlington Boulevard from Dickinson Avenue to Beasley Drive. I need to check with Public Works as to how to address two applicants wanting the same street.

Motion was made by Mr. Albi McLawhorn and seconded by Ms. Valerie Guess to approve the adoption of Third Street from Reade Street to Memorial Drive by the Street Hawks and to table the two requests for the other adopt-a-street until the March meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Comment from Mark Abboud

Mr. Abboud: There is a tree planting event on February 12, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the dog park located on Ash Street. The Community Appearance Commission could have a table for information and for educating the public. I will send out a reminder e-mail to the Commission.

Tree Preservation Commission Appointment

Myron Caspar agreed to serve on the Tree Preservation Commission.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no reports.

UPDATES BY STAFF

There were no updates by Staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Perry Kachroo and seconded by Mr. Mark Abboud to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Niki Jones
Planner