

**Appearance Commission Meeting**  
**April 6, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Nora Cambier, Sandy Foutch, Ben Carroll, Kirby Guinn, and Linda Tracy

**Members Absent:** Lee Batson, Kirby Guinn

**Staff Present:** Patrick Reidy, Planner

**Guests:** Commissioner Virginia Gray

**1. Meeting Called to Order & Welcome**

Patrick Reidy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was established per the bylaws.

**2. Adjustment and Approval of the Agenda**

Sandy Foutch made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ben Carroll. The vote was unanimous.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Linda Tracy made a motion to approve the March 2, 2015 minutes. The motion was seconded by Sandy Foutch. The vote was unanimous.

**4. Public Comments:**

There were no public comments.

**5. Discussion, Consideration, and Action on the Following Items:**

**A. Wendell Mural Update**

Patrick Reidy started the mural update by talking about the cost of the sign for the mural. He stated that he received three quotes for the sign. All of the quotes were for a white PVC sign with routed letters and painted black to match the design that Peggy Lee Mead had on her sketch.

McKenzie Digital Fab quoted the cost at \$1,400. Broach Custom Signs quoted the cost at \$1,750. Tabor Services quoted the cost at \$4,600. None of these quotes covered the cost of a building and sign permit to attach the sign to the wall, which typically costs about \$200.

He also stated that the building owner, Rose Farley, had committed at least \$250 towards the cost of the sign. It was determined that at this time, the cost of the sign would probably not be covered by the current amount of money that had been raised. Depending on the actual cost of the materials and supplies for the mural, more money could be available for the sign. Members could contribute towards the sign or could ask the Town Board to use any unused façade grant money to go towards the sign and mural. If not enough money is available for the sign, the “sign” could be painted on and then covered over by an actual sign once enough money is available. Members agreed that painting the sign would be an acceptable solution if enough money was not available.

Ben Carroll said he had another sign company that staff should reach out to for a quote. He said he would get the contact information to Patrick.

The second item that was brought up was the ability to store paint and supplies in the rear of the building. The building owner is amenable to letting someone have a key to have access for storage. Further coordination will be required at a later date. A second option would be to locate a small enclosed trailer at the rear of the property so that volunteers wouldn't have to have access to a private business. Members said they would ask around to see if they had any leads for a small trailer.

Patrick also stated that after speaking with the Town Manager and Town Attorney, the town will not need to carry any type of liability insurance for the volunteers. It was advised that the grass strip and on-street parking provide enough of a barrier to protect volunteers for being hit by a vehicle while working. At most, the town could provide work zone cones to make drivers extra aware. He also told the members that the town will have the grass treated for fire ants so no one will have to accidentally encounter any ant mounds.

Lastly, he informed the members that the Board of Commissioners had the mural on the April 13<sup>th</sup> consent agenda to approve the design.

There were a few minor details that were brought up by members for Peggy to consider in her mural design before painting the mural. Those items included: the dress length on the women should be longer, there should only be one lantern amongst the group of women, the women seemed to have rather thick ankles, and that the face of the train was not accurate to the style of train that would have been in Wendell.

Nora Cambier said she would reach out to a train enthusiast that she knew to try and get a picture or a model of the appropriate type of train to give to Peggy.

## **B. Wendell Falls Parkway Banners**

At the request of the Town Manager, Patrick Reidy presented a banner design that the town wanted to install in the next fiscal year budget. Patrick noted that Wendell Falls is scheduled for Grand Opening in May and that the Town of Wendell wanted to make sure visitors to Wendell Falls realize that they are within the town limits of Wendell.

He stated that at the February meeting, the Appearance Commission voted that the town's next "beautification project" should be wayfinding signage along Wendell Falls Parkway. The town has a plan to install another gateway sign after you get off the Future I-495 ramp, as well as automobile oriented wayfinding signage along the parkway, but funding may not be available for the upcoming budget yet. It does appear that the town may move forward with funding for an overall wayfinding plan for NCDOT to review so future signs can be installed closer to the road.

Patrick also stated that as a way of advertising the town, at a reduced cost, the town hoped to have banners installed on the light poles. Currently, the town has centennial banners along Wendell Boulevard and felt that banners would be a welcomed addition to Wendell Falls Parkway since it serves as our second largest thoroughfare in to town.

Staff worked with Mosca Designs to create a banner that could be use on the parkway. The different colored banners would alternate along the parkway. Patrick said that staff would like to start by ordering 30 banners and then adding more banners at a later time as you move towards town (and more light poles are installed as land is developed). The developer of Wendell Falls will be providing seasonal banners along their stretch of the parkway.

The Appearance Commission was asked to weigh in on the idea of adding banners and vote on making a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners when they vote on approving the next budget.

The general consensus is that the "Wendell Falls" stretch of Wendell Falls Parkway is already undergoing many beautification upgrades and that the money would be better spent from Martin Pond Road coming in towards Wendell Boulevard. Members also felt that a gateway sign near the Wendell Falls Parkways exit ramp off of Future I-495 would be a better use of money.

After discussion, Ben Carroll made a motion to recommend putting the parkway banners on hold and to allocate funding for a gateway sign on Wendell Falls Parkway, near the exit ramp of Future I-495. Nora Cambier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **C. Christmas Tree Decorating Idea**

Sandy Foutch and Linda Tracy brought up the idea of possibly decorating some type of Christmas tree as a way of helping to advertise the Lake Myra Light Show in downtown Wendell. They suggested having the tree located near the gateway sign on Wendell Boulevard.

The other members expressed interest in the idea and asked that it be further discussed at a future meeting.

### **D. Applications for Appearance Commission**

Patrick Reidy reminded the members that Lee Batson and Kirby Guinn have terms that are expiring and stated that if members know anyone who might be interested, please let him know. Applications are due on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Commission Gray mentioned that Allison Klepchick, Kim Murphy, and Dr. Connie were at interested in serving on citizen boards. Patrick stated that he would hand deliver applications those three individuals.

#### **6. Chairwoman and Board Members' Comments**

No comments were given.

#### **7. Adjourn**

Nora Cambier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ben Carroll seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.