

Appearance Commission Meeting

February 2, 2015

Minutes

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

Members Absent: Lee Batson (excused)

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

Linda Tracy made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded Kirby Guinn. The vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of Minutes

Sandy Foutch made a motion to approve the January 5, 2015 minutes. The motion was seconded by Linda Tracy. The vote was unanimous.

4. Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

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

A. Wendell Beautification Efforts for next budget cycle

At the request of the Town Manager, Teresa Piner, Patrick Reidy presented four options for projects that the town may be able to complete during the next budget year. It is unlikely that the town could do all of the projects and could do multiple projects depending on cost. The Appearance Commission was asked to give their opinion on prioritization of the projects.

Patrick Reidy presented the following options and estimated costs:

- Add more Christmas Lights to the town square – minimal cost
- Add wayfinding signage and banners leading from the Wendell Falls Parkway interchange at Future I-495 and Wendell Boulevard – ranging from \$5,000 to \$60,000

- Completion of the street improvements (tree replacement and electrical upgrades) at Main Street and Third Street – approximately \$70,000
- Completion of the street improvements (tree replacement and electrical upgrades) at Main Street and Fourth Street – approximately \$40,000

After discussion and consideration of costs, the Commission members unanimously prioritized the projects in the following order from highest priority to lowest priority:

- Wayfinding signage and banners along Wendell Falls Parkway
- Street improvements at Main Street and Third Street
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- Adding more lights to the Town Square

The list will be forwarded to the Town Manager for her to consider adding to the budget that goes before the Wendell Board of Commissioners.

Members asked that the town look at ways of sprucing of Third Street businesses, since that area has been neglected and has many vacancies. Patrick Reidy said he would share the concerns with the town manager.

Patrick Reidy also mentioned that Broach Custom Signs has asked about making uniform sign holders for downtown businesses. It was asked if the façade grant did not receive any applicants during a cycle, could the funding could be used to help offset the cost of the sign holders or give a discount to the first few people who paid the rest of the amount. Mr. Reidy stated that he would talk with the Town Manager about the possibility.

6. Chairwoman and Board Members' Comments

Chairwoman Foutch asked that Patrick Reidy reach out to the Economic Development Committee to ask that members attend the next meeting to talk about offering help for dressing up storefronts in downtown.

7. Adjourn

Sandy Foutch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Tracy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.