



DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES FOR January 18, 2017

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Lisa Chalian-Rock. Members present: Lisa Chalian-Rock, Ronda Brown, Howard Garland, Jimmy White, Susan Bridgers, and our newest member, Amy Weaver, who was welcomed with much enthusiasm. Also, attending was

The meeting was opened with prayer by Susan Bridgers thanking Him for the beauty of His creation and continuing to ask for His guidance in caring for the beauty He has given us.

Minutes of our November, 2016, meeting, were reviewed by those in attendance, with unanimous approval by all.

Lisa Chalian-Rock gave the Treasurer's Report and provided a written copy to all in attendance, which also included the budgeted items. Ms. Rock also provided the Board with a proposed list of various options for additional Christmas decorations for 2017, and after review and discussion, motion was made by Ronda Brown, with a second by Howard Garland for presentation to Council for their consideration of the Downtown Focus in the estimated amount of Six thousand, six hundred ninety-one and 30/100 (\$6,691.30) dollars and the Corridor Focus in the estimated amount of Twenty-five thousand, four hundred twenty-six and 94/100 (\$25,426.94) dollars. These options would add decorations from North Main Street to the Library and Cashua Street to Woods Street with respect to downtown, and the corridor from Pearl to Manheim and the four (4) corners at the Bypass location.

The benches have been installed and the bike racks are an upcoming project, which will be discussed at the February meeting as to design and placement.

A PowerPoint presentation was given to the Board by Ms. Rock as to various proposals for the Gateway Plan. Mr. White will present to Council at their February meeting on the 7th at 7:00 p.m. the Board's request for hospitality funds to be used for entrance enhancement and upkeep. The Board is encouraged to attend this meeting. Mr. White, Ms. Brown and Mrs. Rock have put much time and thought into these various proposals, and the Board appreciates their dedication.

Nominations were provided for the Business Pride Award, and Genesis Health Care was chosen to receive this award, which will be presented in the near future.

Ms. Brown brought to the Board's attention the damage to several pots on the Square, and these will be repaired with Flex Seal so they will not have to be immediately replaced. Pansies will also be placed in the pots within the next week, and the Board sincerely appreciates the dedication to this project by the Kalmia Garden Club, especially Ms. Brown, Ms. Burns, Mrs. Bumgarner, Mrs. Jordan and others in the Club.

An update as to the Beautification Volunteer Group was given by Mrs. Weaver, and the Board was very pleased and appreciated immensely their hard work in restoring the old Christmas angels and snowflakes, which added such beauty to the Christmas decorations, 2016. Ms. Brown met with this group to discuss an upcoming project of painting the historical signs. Also, she suggested that a sample of a decorative Stop Sign be designed and this will be further discussed at the February, 2017, meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m., and our next meeting will be February 15, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. with location to be determined and provided prior to that time.

Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary



DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 15, 2017.

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Lisa Chalian-Rock. Members present: Lisa Chalian-Rock, Laura Burns, Ronda Brown, Howard Garland, Jimmy White, and Susan Bridgers. Also, attending was Alex Gainey, Codes Enforcement Officer, and Bryant Gardner, representing the group of volunteers working with the Beautification Committee.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Susan Bridgers continuing to ask for His guidance in caring for the beautiful creation He has given us and asking for harmony in working together, as well as harmony and healing for our Nation in this time of unrest.

Minutes of our January, 2017, meeting, were reviewed by those in attendance, and Motion made by Ronda Brown for approval, with a second by Jimmy White and unanimous approval by all.

Lisa Chalian-Rock gave the Treasurer's Report and provided a written copy to all in attendance, which included budgeted items, as well as a proposed 2017-2018 Budget for review. This proposed Budget was reviewed at length and will be adjusted to present to Council for their consideration at the appropriate time.

The benches are to be installed in front of Wilson Senior Care, as this bench was donated by the Wilson Group, and in front of Tenampa Restaurant, which bench was donated by the Kalmia Garden Club. Various illustrations of the bike racks to be considered were presented to the Committee and after discussion, Motion was made by Jimmy White and seconded by Laura Brown for the choices of the "Park Lite bike rack" to be used in areas where space was at a premium, such as sidewalks, and the "Euro Station Bike rack" to be used in a more open area, since it would hold eight (8) bikes. These choices were unanimously approved by the Board.

Also, an illustration of a decorative Stop Sign was provided to the Board with various options as to design, and Motion was made by Ronda Brown and seconded by Jimmy White for the choice of the Stop Sign with a Fleur de Lis final and a solid black back, with a "Minneapolis" base, which was approved by the Board with this choice being presented in the form of the complete package at the March, 2017, meeting for final approval. The various samples of bricks for the Gateway Project were obtained from Palmetto Brick by Ms. Brown and after review of the same, Motion was made by Ms. Burns and seconded by Mr. White for the choice of the Lynchburg style brick, with unanimous approval by the Board.

An update on the Gateway Plan was given to the Board advising that the presentation of Mr. Jimmy White to Council earlier this month was well received and will go forward with obtaining estimates for Council's further consideration. The Board expressed its sincere appreciation to Mr. White for his presentation to Council and to fellow Board members for their hard work in getting the information together for presentation.

Mrs. Chalian-Rock reminded the Board of the Business Pride Award to be presented to Genesis Health Care on Wednesday, February 22nd at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Brown advised the Board that she had repaired the damage to the pot on the Square near Edward Jones Investments, but that there were several deep cracks in this pot, and it would probably need replacement. Mayor Hines inquired as to the pansies in the pot near the News & Press, and Ms. Burns said she would replant this pot using some of the pansies in other pots in that area. The condition of Wells Park was also of great concern to Mayor Hines, and Ms. Brown explained the situation there involving the water systems being turned off without authorization to do so. This problem is being addressed and will be taken care of as soon as possible.

An update as to the Beautification Volunteer Group was given by Mr. Gardner, and the Board very much appreciates their work in painting the historical signs. Ms. Brown inquired as to whether they would assist in placing the "pot feet" under the pots on the Square, and Mr. Gardner will follow up on this.

Ms. Brown inquired as to the status of installation of the "15 Minute Parking" signs, and Mrs. Chalian-Rock updated the Board on the proposed locations where these will be placed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m., and our next meeting will be March 15, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary

City of Darlington Beautification Board

Minutes for March 15, 2017

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Attending were Board members Ms. Rock, Ms. Burns, Ms. Brown, Mr. Garland, Mrs. Ishman, and Mrs. Tammy James, a member of the public.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Ms. Burns.

Ms. Ishman made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 15, 2017, meeting as written. Ms. Brown made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Rock presented the Treasurers' Report, stating the Board had \$4,527.34 remaining for this fiscal year. Ms. Brown asked about the \$3,000 donation from the Kalmia Garden Study Club for the Lamar Highway entrance. Ms. Rock said the report did not reflect it because she did not have the information on which account the funds would be attributed to yet. Ms. Brown made a motion to accept the report as information. Mrs. Ishman made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Courthouse Beautification Plan: Ms. Rock said the County would be approaching the Board with a plan to remove and replace the Bradford pear trees on the courthouse grounds.

Regarding Clean Up Day, Ms. Burns said the best date for her as chair of the project was Saturday, April 8. Ms. Rock noted the Keep Darlington County Beautiful Litter Collection would be Saturday, April 29. Ms. Burns said Mr. Bobby Kilgo would coordinate the county workers to spruce up the courthouse grounds on the same day as our clean up. Ms. Brown suggested bringing the Garden Club two dates and see which would have the most volunteers, April 8 and April 22. Ms. Rock suggested soliciting projects in a news release. Ms. Brown said that we need to solicit more heavily for volunteers and explain how we choose the projects in the article. The Board discussed various projects and settled on the parking lot behind C'Boans, Liberty Lane to include painting the benches, the alley at Vaughan Insurance, the pots and beds around the Square, installing the pot feet, and clear coat for the pots to preserve them.

In the bench report, Ms. Rock said we have the two benches and are waiting on the plaques before they are installed. She showed a proof of the plaque from Carolina Printing. The Board suggested removing "donated by" and checking for a better price at Blackmon Memorials.

Gateway Update: Ms. Rock noted the Garden Club's donation for the Lamar entrance. Ms. Brown said the brick mason could start on the columns for the new sign next week and that the club has \$500 allocated for plants. She thanked the City for taking down the old sign and agreeing to till the ground to prepare the soil for planting. She added that she completed the plan for the Washington Street entrance and suggested the City submit the 52 entrance project to Palmetto Pride for \$5,000 grant money to fund the project. Ms. Brown said, then, the club would apply for \$2,500 for the Washington Street entrance. Mr. Garland said Mr. White gave him an estimate for maintaining the entrance of \$10,000 per year that could be funded through hospitality monies. Ms. Brown asked about the solar lights versus electric at the Lamar entrance. Mr. Garland said Duke Energy said we could use solar since it was on private

property. Ms. Brown showed examples of the lights, a carriage house style lamp that would top each column of the sign.

Volunteer Group: Mrs. James reported she has been painting the wrought iron decorative signs around the Square. The Board thanked her and said she was doing a wonderful job.

Pride Award: Ms. Brown suggested that the Board keep a notebook of nominees and number them so we have alternates when someone refusing the award. Mrs. Ishman suggested a cute house on Dargan Street near Chestnut. Ms. Brown noted 502 Cashua and 605 Cashua had both been mentioned multiple times. Mrs. Burns suggested the green house on Spring Street had been nominated before as well. Ms. Rock said we should select a winner and two runners-up as Ms. Brown suggested. The Board agreed.

City Administrator's Report: Mr. Garland said the Beautification Board had

In unfinished business about bicycle racks, the Board discussed possible locations.

Stop Signs: The decorative stop sign package would run approximately \$600 per sign. Ms. Brown said the one at Cashua Street and the Square could be the example to show the community and get feedback. Given the funds available, she made a motion for the Board to purchase two stop sign packages, the one previously indicated and another at Carolina Drug Store. Mrs. Ishman made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Garland made a motion to purchase at least three bicycle racks and the two stop signs. Ms. Brown made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board agreed to install small, 2-bike racks on the north side of the Public Square and in Liberty Lane, where Ms. Brown had seen bicycle chained to the bench or light post. The Board also decided to install large bike racks at the Bill Cain Tennis Complex, the library, and Williamson Park's Spring Street entrance.

After calculating the potential costs, Ms. Rock said the Board might have around \$1,500 remaining. Mrs. Ishman made a motion to purchase a bench to install on the Wells Fargo side of the Square. Ms. Brown made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Brown requested Mr. Garland check on the status of the 15-minute parking signs.

The next Board meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at City Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

City of Darlington Beautification Board

Minutes for April 19, 2017

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Attending were Board members Ms. Rock, Ms. Burns, Ms. Brown, Mr. Garland, Mrs. Ishman, Mr. White, Mrs. Willoughby, Mr. Gainey, and Mrs. Joan Alston, a member of the public.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Ms. Ishman.

Ms. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 15, 2017, meeting as written. Ms. Ishman made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Rock presented the Treasurers' Report, stating the Board had \$4,527.34 remaining for this fiscal year. Ms. Brown said Clean Up Day would run approximately \$800 for the spring event. Ms. Rock said the stop signs, bike racks, and bench would be ordered this month, and with clean up that would potentially deplete the remaining funds for this fiscal year that ends June 30. The Board accepted the report as information.

Courthouse Beautification Plan: Ms. Rock said the County representative was not here to present.

Pride Award Residential: After reviewing about a dozen nominees, the Board selected a winner and runner-up. Mr. White made a motion to select the pansy house on Dargan Street and 101 N. Spain should the winner not accept the award. Mr. Garland made the second. Ms. Burns recused herself from the vote, as a family member had been nominated. The Board approved the motion 4 to 3.

Clean Up Day: Ms. Burns pleaded for everyone to solicit volunteers for the work day on Saturday, April 22, from 8 a.m. to noon, meeting at the Chamber. She said pansies in the pots would be replaced by 700 vinca, pinestraw would be put in the islands, and the parking lot behind C'Boans and Wilson Senior Care would be cleaned. Straw would also be put in the alley off Cashua Street and Liberty Lane as needed. The pots need to be clear coated as well as the feet need to be installed under several of them. Ms. Brown suggested folks bring small spades for planting the flowers. Ms. Burns said water and cookies would be available at the Chamber office.

Benches Update: Ms. Rock said the plaque for Wilson Senior Care had been ordered, and the two donated benches were ready to be installed any day.

Gateway Plan Update: Ms. Rock noted that the City had put funds in a separate line item for the maintenance of the gateways. She provided a draft of the bid notice and details. Mr. White suggested the City needed to do some work to the entryways before pine straw was put on top of these areas. Ms. Brown said the maintenance is still needed. Ms. Rock said if the bids were below the line item, the City could use the remainder to do the work to which Mr. White referred. Mr. White said he too was glad to see this added to the budget.

Volunteer Group: No one representing the volunteer group was present.

City Administrator's Report: Mr. Garland said the City has added money to the planning department budget, as Ms. Rock mentioned for the entrance maintenance for nearly \$19,000, as well as \$20,000 for tree work. This Board's line item remains at \$7,000 for the next fiscal year.

Unfinished Business: Ms. Brown requested several items be checked on, the 15-minute parking signs, cement blocks at the 401 entrance, and the crooked post across from Liberty Lane. She also asked about the construction signs being posted along Cashua Street. Mr. Garland said SCDOT started paving several streets, Bacote and Pine, for example, but has not contacted the City about its intentions and has not responded to his calls about it.

Mr. White asked about the cone at the water tap at the Veterans Memorial that has been there for two years. He also noted 16 to 18 cones that are at various locations along Main Street in the City limits that have been there forever. He said it looks unsightly. He also asked about board member attendance policy and number allowed to serve.

Ms. Brown also said that water had become an issue on the Square again and provided a sample of the dry dirt and dead plants. She said the pots need to be watered three times a week until the water goes through to the bottom. She added that, if the watering was not regular, it would flow through right away. She said the club put a lot of money and time into the project and hates to see it wasted.

Ms. Brown also suggested an idea to bring folks to town. She visited Stanton, Va., where they held a Harry Potter Day where children and businesses dressed and decorated in that theme. The small, remote town had 20,000 people come. She suggested Darlington organize a similar Super Hero Day featuring the fire and police departments and local businesses.

Mr. White made a motion to invite the fire chief and Ms. Carroll to the next meeting since much of what the Board discusses affects their departments. Ms. Burns made the second. The motion carried.

New Business: Ms. Rock said the next meeting would be held at 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 24, at City Hall instead of May 19 due to a scheduling conflict.

The meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

City of Darlington Beautification Board

Minutes for May 24, 2017

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Attending were Board members Ms. Rock, Ms. Burns, Mr. White, Mrs. Willoughby, and Mr. Gainey.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Ms. Burns.

Ms. Burns made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 19, 2017, meeting as written. Mr. White made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Rock presented the Treasurers' Report, stating the Board had \$643.07 remaining for this fiscal year ending June 30. Some of these funds would be used for installation of a bench, stop signs, and bike racks.

Courthouse Beautification Plan: Ms. Rock said the County representative was not here to present.

Benches Update: Ms. Rock said the bench for the Public Square near Wells Fargo had been ordered, and we need to obtain the DOT permit prior to installation.

Gateway Plan Update: Ms. Rock said the Entryway Landscape Maintenance Bid packets were available. It has been advertised in The News & Press and online, emailed to contacts she had. She asked members to let her know if there is someone who might be interested in bidding on the work.

Ms. Rock said she was waiting on bids for the signage at the Pate School entrance on 401. Mr. White said he had a company that would bid the job too.

Ms. Rock said that Ms. Brown, who had to be out of town for family reasons, had asked about what direction to take the lighting at the 401 entrance: Electric lights, solar lights, or replace with pineapple sculptures. Batteries will have to be replaced on solar, and she wondered who will do that. Ms. Burns said, if we want the area lit all night, solar will not work. Mr. Gainey said he would suggest LED electric lights since it would not pull much power. Mr. White said we need more information and a lighting company to make a recommendation. He said he likes the gas lights on the pillars. He said that they are unique and should be maintained and maybe meet with the gas company about it. Ms. Burns said it would be impressive to keep those. Mr. Gainey volunteered to contact the gas company. Mr. White said we want them to fix it and put in lights.

Ms. Rock asked, for Ms. Brown, about the lack of irrigation at the Cashua Street entrance. Mr. White said he will include that when he approaches McLeod about a donation and maybe including the maintenance of the area in its donation. He said he has been trying to get donations for the different entrances. He said we have the plan for the Food Lion area with the hedge, cherry trees, and drift roses. He said he has gotten a commitment from Carolina Bank to donate \$2,000 toward that section of the entrance. Mr. Gainey suggested contacting Genesis Healthcare as well. Mr. White said that would take care of half of that section. Ms. Rock said plus another \$2,000 for irrigation there. Mr. White asked

about having a city employee remove the wax myrtles, which have been of special concern to Carolina Bank.

Mr. White asked about the Washington Street sign. He said maybe it would be good to go with a single column with a nice sign. Since it is a smaller space, we should move there next. He already has gotten \$300 in donations to assist with this area.

Volunteer Group: No one representing the volunteer group was present to report. Ms. Rock said she never received a volunteer list with contact information to contact these folks either.

Psillos Garden Wall: Mr. White said that Ms. Brown had gotten permission to paint the wall behind the Psillos Garden. Ms. Rock said we could use some of the remaining FY16-17 funds to purchase the paint. Mr. White said it was actually stained. Mr. Gainey said we needed a good block sealer.

City Administrator's Report: Mr. Garland was not present to provide a report.

Unfinished Business: Ms. Rock said that the Stop Sign materials had been ordered. She still needs to request the DOT permit. The Board needs to choose a base, as the one previously selected will not fit the pole. She suggested choosing another similar base and/or use funds to replace sign at Exchange and Ward Streets. The cost is \$32 + shipping, so around \$50, per stop sign. Mr. White suggested we go without the base since it was simply additional cost that may deter replicating the design elements in other areas of town. The Board unanimously agreed.

Ms. Rock said that large bike racks (8-bike capacity) had been ordered for the tennis courts, library, and Williamson Park, and small ones (2-bike capacity) had been ordered for the north side of the Square and Liberty Lane. DOT permits are needed for Square.

Ms. Burns asked if all the plants could be removed at the Mayo School median on South Main Street. Mr. White said that we have talked about that. He said that the medians at 401 near Sav-Way needed the same treatment as the bushes were so overgrown, and seasonal plantings planted at the front keeping the same design as the other entrances. Mr. White also suggested a nicer sign to indicate the Mayo School and the Historic Downtown. He said that like all the areas we should get it how we want it before we hire someone to throw straw on top of it. Mr. White said we need city workers to pull out bushes and dig everything out and level it. Within the next two weeks, Mr. White said the Board wants to ask that the Mayo median get cleaned up and ready for maintenance. We also ask for the Street Department Director to be invited to this meeting.

New Business: The next meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, at City Hall, 400 Pearl St., as scheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

City of Darlington Beautification Board

Minutes for June 21, 2017

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:08 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Attending were Board members Ms. Rock, Ms. Burns, Mr. White, and Mr. Gainey.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Ms. Burns.

Ms. Burns made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 24, 2017, meeting as written. Mr. White made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Rock presented the Treasurers' Report, stating the Board had \$643.07 remaining for this fiscal year ending June 30. Some of these funds would be used for installation of a bench, stop signs, and bike racks.

With the remaining \$600, do we want to pay someone to dig out the Mitchell Josey median before the contract is awarded for the maintenance? Mr. Gainey said he would get a crew from the Street Department to handle this, rather than spend money on it. Mr. White asked about the lighting of the pillars. Mr. Gainey said he met with the gas company and lighting professional but has not heard back from him on a price. **Mr. White made a motion to use the \$600 on the gas pillar lighting if we received the quote in time and to have Ms. Rock spend at her discretion so the board won't lose the funds. Ms. Burns made the second. The motion carried unanimously.**

Courthouse Beautification Plan: Ms. Rock said the County representative was not here to present.

Pride Award: Ms. Rock said it was time to select a Business for the Pride of Darlington Award. **She made a motion to present the award to South of Pearl, 117 Edwards Avenue. Mr. White made the second. The motion carried unanimously.** The Board noted the work done at the Wilds Edwards House across the street as significant as well.

Gateway Plan Update: Ms. Rock said the fence company is being problematic and won't send an invoice or order with just a PO. It sounds like our order is so small they are not very interested in our business. She has asked Signs Plus for a quote on doing the fence also. Mr. White got a quote for just the sign from Carolina Printing at \$600. Mr. Gainey said the Career Center could make it for us. Ms. Rock noted there is \$329 left from the garden club's donation to complete the 401 entrance. Ms. Burns said we should order the sign. Mr. Gainey said he would get a quote for someone to build the fence. Mr. White will place the order with Carolina Printing.

The wax myrtles have been cut down but still need to be dug up in the Verizon area. Thanks to Mr. Gainey working with the street department. The Board noted how good it looked. Mr. Gainey said he was waiting to coordinate a day to remove the stumps after a locate was complete.

The Board recognized Auddie Brown Chevrolet for sprucing up the area at Lochend Drive with the flag poles. Mr. Gainey said they got permission from the mayor to do the trimming. Mr. White asked for new flags to be installed.

Mr. White and Ms. Rock have spoken with a business that may donate a large sum to the entrances. Mr. White will contact him and nail down the amount.

Volunteer Group: No one representing the volunteer group was present to report.

City Administrator's Report: Mr. Garland was not present to provide a report.

Unfinished Business: Ms. Rock said the 2-bike racks came in, and they are galvanized not black. She made a mistake when ordering. Mr. Gainey said he would check to see how to get them painted. Ms. Burns said they should not be installed until they are painted. The 8-bike racks have not been delivered.

Ms. Rock said we are waiting on Blackmon Memorial to call saying the sign for the Garden Club is in, so we can install it and get a photo of it and the Wilson Senior Care donation. The bench has been installed in front of Wells Fargo too.

The landscaping maintenance bid opening is Tuesday at 2 p.m. Ms. Rock said she has had more contractors call with questions and shown interest in the project. One asked if we could do it as a three-year contract next time. The Board thought year-to-year would be best given the budget and past experience with unsatisfactory contractors.

Ms. Rock said that all the pieces have not come in to install the decorative stop signs, so we are waiting on items to ship.

Ms. Burns asked about the lights at the Pate entrance. She said we voted for electric rather than solar, so it would be lit all night. Mr. Gainey suggested placing the meter on the back of the pillar and said he would schedule this.

New Business: The next meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16, at City Hall, 400 Pearl St., as scheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.



DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 16, 2017.

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Members present: Lisa Rock, Laura Burns, Ronda Brown, Howard Garland, Becky Ishman, Amy Weaver, Jimmy White, Neomia Willoughby and Susan Bridgers. Also, attending was Alex Gainey, Codes Enforcement Officer.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Susan Bridgers thanking God for His guidance in caring for His beautiful creation and also blessing each person who gives of their time and talents for our city.

Minutes of our July, 2017, meeting, were reviewed by those in attendance, and Motion made by Laura Burns for approval, with a second by Jimmy White and unanimous approval by all.

Ms. Rock gave the Treasurer's Report, providing a written copy to all in attendance, reflecting our budget of Seven thousand (\$7,000.00) dollars, and listed suggestions as to how it could be allocated, advising this could be adjusted by need. Ms. Rock also provided the Board with a list of donations received for various projects, as well as expenses to-date for upcoming projects, including the areas involved in the Gateway Plan. Ms. Rock and Mr. White also advised the Board of the donation offered by Genesis Health Care, Inc., for entrance signs, and further discussion will be had with Genesis as to which location to use this donation. Discussion was also had as to the placement of the new bench and decided that it would best be utilized in front of Carolina Drug Store. Ms. Brown made a Motion for this to be done, with a second by Mrs. Ishman.

The Board was provided with an updated report on the Flower Pots on the Square and repair of those pots, which have sustained damage, was discussed. Ms. Brown and Ms. Burns will proceed with trying to patch these, possibly on the upcoming Clean Up Day, October 21st.

Ms. Brown suggested to the Board that Certificates of Appreciation be prepared and presented to homeowners or businesses, who have done noteworthy cosmetic improvements to their properties. Their names would be published in the News & Press at the time the quarterly awards were presented and published. The Certificates would either be mailed or personally delivered to each recipient. Ms. Brown made a Motion for this to be done, which was seconded by Mr. White and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board discussed what day to schedule the Clean Up, and it was unanimously agreed to do this on October 21, 2017. Ms. Burns requested that she be provided with a banner for her front yard on Cashua Street to serve as a reminder to our citizens of this city-wide project, and Ms. Rock volunteered to order twenty (20) poster-sized signs for other Board members to use in their yards or yards of those citizens in well traveled areas, who agreed to exhibit these. Ms. Burns made a Motion for this, and Mr. Garland seconded the Motion, with unanimous approval by the Board.

Mr. Garland, City Administrator, advised the Board of the pending purchase of the Psillos Garden by the SCDOT to use in the expansion of North Main Street to six (6) lanes to accommodate the future construction of the Judicial Center. This area has been of historical significance to Darlington because of prior burial of Northern soldiers during the Civil War, as well as the extended areas of residences and businesses having much of their front properties absorbed by this expansion. Thus, the City is appealing this proposal.

Ms. Rock advised the Board of the upcoming Palmetto Pride Grant application, and requested that the Board suggest projects to be considered for the Grant. As previously noted, Ms. Brown had presented a plan to update the walkway next to Vaughan Insurance that could be a project funded by this Grant. Ms. Brown made a Motion that this project be approved, with a second by Ms. Burns and unanimous approval by the Board. Ms. Brown also asked that Liberty Lane be cleaned up before Race Week, including the bench painted and hedges trimmed. Mrs. Weaver volunteered to paint the bench on Liberty Lane before Race Week. Ms. Brown also requested the historic street markers continue to be painted as time allows. Mr. Garland said the project would continue once grass cutting season was over. Ms. Brown noted that the entrance to Williamson Park needed some TLC. She asked if the person painting the signs could paint the parking signs on Orange Street near Trinity UMC next.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m., and our next meeting will be September 20, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary



DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 20, 2017.

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Members present: Lisa Rock, Laura Burns, Ronda Brown, Reverend Coleman Cannon, Howard Garland, Becky Ishman, and Susan Bridgers. Also, attending was Alex Gainey, Codes Enforcement Officer. Concerned citizens attending the meeting were Mrs. Cathy Bailey, Linda Beckham and Mr. and Mrs. Grady Culbertson.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Reverend Cannon thanking God for His guidance and for the many blessings He bestows upon us.

Minutes of our August 16, 2017, meeting, were reviewed by those in attendance, and Motion made by Howard Garland for approval, with a second by Lisa Rock and unanimous approval by all.

Ms. Rock gave the Treasurer's Report, providing a written copy to all in attendance, reflecting our budget of Seven thousand (\$7,000.00) dollars, with those amounts for expenses paid therefrom. She also provided the Board with a copy of the 2017-2018 budget and those anticipated expenses to be paid therefrom. The projected expenses allocated to replacement/repair of the gas lanterns, as well as the quarterly maintenance expenses therefor in the total amount of One thousand, eight hundred seventy-three and 68/100 (\$1,873.68) dollars, will be removed from these expenditures and will be paid from the Building Maintenance account. The Board sincerely appreciates this consideration and assistance.

Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Beckham and Mr. and Mrs. Culbertson were in attendance to request additional information with respect to a contract entered into with Taylor Garden and Landscaping for the rose garden, library grounds and several other flower/shrubbery beds near the Square. Ms. Rock discussed with them their concerns and will provide to them a copy of the contract for their review.

The Board was provided with a report on the Flower Pots on the Square/Donation Projects, which included the estimates for the Entrance project at Verizon. The Board discussed the position of the projected entrance sign there and Motion was made by Ronda Brown, with a second by Lisa Rock and unanimous approval by the Board to relocated the sign on the side of Verizon adjoining the By-Pass lanes of travel.

Ms. Burns presented a suggestion for fall decorations on the Square. She has obtained cornstalks and cotton plant branches to affix to the larger light poles with burlap ribbon and felt that pine straw bales would compliment these decorations, which could be recycled after use to the flowerbeds on the Square. The Board felt this was a wonderful suggestion and upon Motion by Ms. Ishman and a second by Ms. Brown, appropriated Two hundred (\$200.00) dollars from the budget for these decorations with unanimous approval by the Board. Ms. Burns and Ms. Brown graciously volunteered to decorate the Square with these festive decorations during the next week.

Ms. Brown's previous suggestion to the Board that Certificates of Appreciation be prepared and presented to homeowners or businesses, who have done noteworthy cosmetic improvements to their properties was further discussed and names were suggested as recipients thereof. Further discussion will be had as to these at our next meeting.

The Board further discussed Clean Up Day to be held on October 21, 2017, with a make up day in the event of rain for October 28, 2017. Ms. Burns advised that she had obtained a banner for her front yard on Cashua Street to serve as a reminder to our citizens of this city-wide project, and Ms. Rock provided the Board with fliers to distribute and has ordered twenty (20) poster-sized signs for other Board members to use in their yards or yards of those citizens in well traveled areas, who agreed to exhibit these. Ms. Rock will email the Board members when these signs are available to be picked up for display.

Mr. Garland, City Administrator, provided further information to the Board of the pending purchase of the Psillos Garden by the SCDOT. He said proceeds of this sale would be given to the Beautification Board for future projects. This will be appreciated by the Board, and Mrs. Sally Psillos and members of the Psillos family will be contacted and given a choice of alternate positions where the Psillos Garden Memorial can be relocated.

Ms. Brown advised the Board of the upcoming Palmetto Pride Grant application, and presented the Board with a sketch of the proposed plan to update the walkway next to Vaughan Insurance Agency. Suggestions were made as to asking for donations to purchase pots and benches for this area, as well as

obtaining estimates for the ironwork to be done for the alley entrance. Mr. Alex Gainey graciously agreed to obtain further information as to estimates for this archway.

Ms. Brown inquired as to the status of the bike racks, and Ms. Rock advised that two were to be installed that day at the Tennis Court and the Williamson Park entrance. Stop signs will be further discussed at the next meeting and suggestions were made as to making contact with residents of streets, especially in the Historical District as to contributions from these street residents to a stop sign for their street.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m., and our next meeting will be October 18, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary



DARLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 18, 2017.

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Members present: Lisa Rock, Laura Burns, Ronda Brown, Becky Ishman, Amy Weaver, Jimmy White and Susan Bridgers. Also, attending was Alex Gainey, Codes Enforcement Officer.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Susan, thanking God for the beauty of His Creation and for all those who so lovingly care for it.

Minutes of our September 20, 2017, meeting were reviewed by those in attendance, and Motion made by Laura Burns for approval, with a second by Becky Ishman and unanimous approval by all.

Ms. Rock gave the Treasurer's Report, providing a written copy to all in attendance, reflecting our budget of Seven thousand (\$7,000.00) dollars, with those amounts for expenses paid there from in the total amount of Two thousand four hundred eighty-six and 30/100(\$2,486.30) dollars, and a balance remaining of Four thousand, five hundred thirteen and 70/100 (\$4,513.70) dollars.

Pursuant to Ms. Brown having suggested to the Board, at last month's meeting, that Certificates of Appreciation be prepared and presented to homeowners or businesses, who have done noteworthy cosmetic improvements to their properties, Ms. Rock provided the Board with a sample Certificate for their review. Mr. White suggested that these nominations be presented at our November meeting.

The Board expressed much appreciation to Ms. Burns, Mrs. Ishman and Ms. Brown for the beautiful Fall decorations they placed on the Square and adjoining streets. Many compliments have been made by residents and these decorations have certainly added a warm, welcoming and festive atmosphere to the City.

With respect to nominations for the Residential Pride Award for the upcoming quarter, Mr. White made a nomination for this to be awarded to the Stephens residence at 101 North Spain Street. This nomination has been approved by acclamation. The date and time for this presentation will be provided in the near future.

The Board discussed Clean Up Day, which is scheduled for this Saturday, October 21, 2017. Ms. Rock provided the Board with a list of projects to be addressed on Saturday and discussion was had as to who would participate. The Fire Department has graciously agreed to assist, and the service clubs also plan to be present. Bobby Kilgo has volunteered to spray weed and ant killer on the Courthouse grounds and Jimmy White and his crew will be working on the median located by the Sav-Way station on Pearl Street, the parking area around Wilson Senior Care, as well as other areas where assistance may be needed. Amy Weaver will assist with touch-up painting of signs around the Square. Also, lower branches of trees will be trimmed to provide better access to parking areas and viewing signage. Ms. Rock also addressed the Liberty Lane bench area, which needs to be completed with fill bricks. Motion was made by Ms. Brown and seconded by Mr. White, with unanimous Board approval, for the amount of Eight hundred (\$800.00) dollars for this project, and Ms. Rock will contact several brick masons to discuss the same.

Ms. Rock also provided the Board with a cost sheet for the implementation of the walkway project next to Vaughan Insurance. Payment of Ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars of this expense will be funded by the Palmetto Pride Grant Award.

Ms. Rock provided an update on the Gateways projects with written information given to each member as to costs involved with the lantern installation on the columns at the South Main Street entrance, to be done on October 25, and the expenses involved with the Pate/Bi-Lo Entrance. Also, provided were expenses concerning the Verizon corner location, with a modification of Eight hundred fifty (\$850.00) dollars for the fence by Outback Mechanical, rather than the Eight hundred (\$800.00) dollars listed thereon. Mr. White requested that contact now be made with Genesis Health Care to provide them with the estimate for this area, for which they have volunteered to contribute, and Ms. Rock, Ms. Brown, Mr. Gainey, and Mr. White will follow-up with making contact with Genesis to provide the necessary information so this project can begin.

Ms. Brown, on behalf of the Garden Club, requested that the Garden Club be provided with letters of support for Grant applications for which the Club is applying to enhance the Lamar entrance triangle area with additional plantings to increase the border shrubbery, as well as larger tree plantings to obscure border structures badly in need of repair. This increased greenery and winter color shrubbery would provide a more

attractive welcome for those entering Darlington from this location. Motion was made by Ms. Rock and seconded by Ms. Ishman with unanimous approval by the Board.

Ms. Brown also brought a sample of a Colonial hitching post which she had made and demonstrated how a seasonal wreath could be attached thereto for decoration. These would be especially attractive placed on each side of the benches on the Square and utilized for seasonal decorations, as well as signage for particular events. The Board was impressed with this suggestion and Motion was made by Ms. Rock and seconded by Mr. White that this project be approved and that Ms. Brown be provided with Three hundred (\$300.00) dollars for materials for this project. The Board gave unanimous approval to this proposal.

Mr. White reminded the Board of the prior suggestion of having an award presented annually to a City employee who had demonstrated “above and beyond” dedication to their job and exhibited a high work ethic in their daily duties. Ms. Rock said she would inquire of department supervisors as to those they felt were entitled to this award and these names will be presented at our next meeting.

With no further business to be addressed, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m., and our next meeting will be November 15, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. Respectfully submitted: Susan Bridgers, Acting Secretary