

## City of Darlington Beautification Board

Minutes for February 26, 2020

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Attending were Board members, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Isham, Mrs. Martin, Mr. White, Ms. Rock, and Mrs. Sprott; City Manager Mr. Garland; and guests, City Council Member Sheila Baccus and News & Press reporter Samantha Lyles.

Mrs. Martin gave the opening prayer.

Ms. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2020, meeting as written. Mrs. Isham made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Rock presented the expenditures of the Board and planned expenditures previously approved. The Board has roughly \$200 remaining for this fiscal year once the wayfaring sign installation is complete. The donation fund has \$12,039.95 remaining.

**Administrator's Report:** Mr. Garland did not have a report.

**Pride of Darlington Certificates:** Ms. Brown made a motion to send a certificate of recognition to the blue house on Orange Street. He is making an effort and keeping it clean during renovations. Mrs. Sprott made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

**Garden Club Project Updates:** Ms. Brown said the Mayor asked us to look at the median on South Main Street at Mitchell Josey. It would be nice to have more presence year-round. The bed has been cut back severely. Linda Beckham said she will pay for the landscaper for McLeod to draft a landscape design for the club to rejuvenate that area. The Darlington Garden Club will host the District Meeting March 26, which brings 70 people to town. Clean Up Day date needs to be selected. Ms. Rock said the weekend of April 11 is Easter and the weekend of April 18 is still the school district's spring break. April 4 is the weekend of the Lamar Egg Scramble activities. That leaves only one potential date in April, the 25th. Ms. Brown said she will confirm with Ms. Burns that April 25 will work.

**Williamson Park Entrances:** Ms. Brown said she spoke with the Williamson Park committee, and they agreed that they should handle the entrances to the park at the pillars. They are also looking at getting uprights for those as well.

**Unfinished Business:** Ms. Brown said she contacted SPC Credit Union about placing an ancillary City of Darlington entrance sign on that property on North Main Street. They agreed. Ms. Brown made a motion to use funds from the Donation Fund for the entrance sign of approximately \$2,500. Mr. White made the second. He asked that we carefully consider the placement and height of the sign because of the slope of that property. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Brown received a quote for repairs to the clock at City Hall and the installation of a historic-looking clock for the Square. The repairs to City Hall would be around \$12,000, and the new clock would be about \$8,000 plus installation. The Board liked the idea but would rather invest in awnings downtown or a message board than a clock. Mrs. Sprott and Mrs. Isham said they did not want to see a digital sign. Mr. White asked about code violations at the Courthouse where the sign on the building is mission letters.

Ms. Brown presented the Beautification Board Plan for 2020 based on responses to the questionnaires member completed last month. She added the remaining items from the 2016 plan for consistency. Mr. White will present to City Council in March along with the budget request. Ms. Brown asked for any changes to be sent to her by Friday morning. The wish list runs \$54,700.

Mr. Garland said Mayor Boyd spoke with Manheim about an entrance sign on 151 and beautification efforts. Ms. Brown presented a landscaping plan for Hampton Street Park. Ms. Rock said that Mr. Davis was moved to recreation and that there would now be two part-time individuals in the planning department.

The next meeting will be at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, at the City Administration Building.

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.