

City of Darlington Beautification Board

Minutes for May 19, 2021

The meeting of the Beautification Board was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Ms. Rock. Attending were Board members, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Ishman, and Ms. Burns; and guests Mrs. Kim Purvis and Mrs. Vivian Jackson.

Ms. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2021, meeting as written. Ms. Burns made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Rock indicated that the Board has approximately \$3,788 remaining for FY2020-2021 to spend by June 30. She presented an estimated cost of \$1,000 for materials from Lowe's for the fencing to obscure the view of the lift station at the main entrance to town. She did not get a price on installation because she assumed she would have a worker to do the install; however, he had been fired this week for not showing up for work. Mrs. Ishman suggested she got a much longer fence of better-quality materials for \$2,400. Ms. Brown made a motion to spend up to \$2,500 for the fencing including installation. Ms. Burns made the second. The motion carried unanimously. This would leave the Board approximately \$1,200 to \$1,500 for the fiscal year. The Board discussed possible uses of the funds before the end of the fiscal year, including trash cans, rocking chairs, and benches, things that could be relocated or specific locations determined later. The Board also talked about the plans to prime and paint the picnic shelters at the Bill Cain Tennis Complex on Orange Street. Ms. Brown made a motion to purchase a bench to be put in front of City Hall. Ms. Burns made the second. The motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Ishman made a motion to use any remaining funds to order primer, paint, and associated items for the Orange Street Project. Ms. Burns made the second. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Brown requested a price for the lattice and posts refurbishment in front of City Hall for the July meeting.

Administrator's Report: Ms. Rock said City Council was meeting tonight to discuss applications but was unsure if a new manager would be in place before July 1.

Clean Up Day: Ms. Rock reported that the three scheduled events went well. The first Saturday's event had more than 30 people and the volunteers got a lot accomplished, including several areas planted and more than 14 bags of litter collected. The second clean up day for Earth Day garnered more than 20 volunteers collecting trash mostly on Spring Street and Smith Avenue near the high school, a total of more than 20 bags collected. She said she advertised the events with full page ads in the Morning News as well as in the City utility bill, and the resulting turnout showed that worked.

Palmetto Pride Grant Award Update: Ms. Rock reported that she had received the \$5,500 check for the grant and could move forward to purchase the materials. The Board requested information on the amount of the fines and an article placed in the newspaper once the cameras are up to let folks know the City was watching for illegal dumping.

Unfinished Business: The Board expressed concern about watering the pots as the hotter months are coming and suggested a reminder training with the staff that waters to ensure the plants are watered deeply, until the water runs out the bottom of the pot to allow water to get to the roots.

The next meeting will be at 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 16, in the courtroom at City Hall. Mrs. Burns gave a closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.