Darlington Beautification Board

Meeting minutes for July 16,2025

1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5pm
2) Attendance: Peggy Cohen, Becky Ishman, Roxie Gregg, Vivian Jackson and Hunter Thomas
3) Prayer: Prayer by Becky Ishman
4) Meeting minutes: meeting minutes for May 21,2025 were approved by unanimous vote. March meeting minutes were not recorded.

5) Financial report: Hunter Thoms reported that the committee will probably have a budget of $7,000:00 and his department has an additional budget of $10,000:00 for this year to be confirmed by next meeting in September. Old bills have yet to be reconciled by Gloria Pridgen city financial department.

6) Administrative update: Shelia Jones has left Property codes enforcement, currently the city has a temporary person (James Jett) filling the position. Charles Shugart from the water and sewer dept. is on leave. Lucas Reed is the chief of streets and Sanitation and has the staff to maintain city properties.

7) Garden club update: The Garden club has volunteered to paint the fence and Gazebo in Hampton Street Park in the fall with paint purchased by the city.

8) Pride of Darlington Award: In June, the residential award was presented to Jim and Corine Litchard at 307 Cashua Street. Members of the committee are to nominate a business for the award in September.

9) New Projects: The board members decided to place emphasis on three projects for the upcoming year.

A) Replacing the 4 entrance signs coming into Darlington. The current signs are cracking. Barnes of All Trades in Lamar SC originally produced the signs. Becky Ishman and Peggy Cohen will contact the company for quotes. Nascar has proposed to aid in payment of new signs if the city council agrees to place a Nascar slogan on the new signs.

B) Purchase of additional Light pole flags for poles on Pearl Street and South Main.

C) Repairing sprinklers at the Rose Garden on Pearl Street

10) Fall Cleanup Day: Saturday November 1st.

11) Unfinished business: The black pots on the square have some dead plants and the empty pot at Trinity Methodist on Pearl Street will be replanted in the fall.

12) The board approved purchase of herbicide (Diquat) to be used in weed elimination on the planted city islands.

13) Adjournment at 6:05pm – next meeting set for September 17,2025