Darlington Beautification Board

Meeting minutes for September 17,2025

1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5pm
2) Attendance: Peggy Cohen, Becky Ishman, Roxie Gregg, Vivian Jackson, Linda Beckham, Letha Martin, and Hunter Thomas
3) Meeting minutes: meeting minutes for July 16,2025 were approved by unanimous vote.

4) 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 however, the budget has yet to be released by the new City Manager

5) Administrative update: Lucas Reed is the chief of streets and Sanitation and has the staff to maintain city properties. It has been requested by the committee that Lucas attend the next meeting in October. The city plans to put up Christmas decorations on November 4.

6) 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. Hunter will contact Lucas Reed to see if the city has white paint for the club to use.

7) Pride of Darlington Award: Members of the committee are to nominate a business for the award in October.

8) New Projects: The board members decided to place emphasis on one project 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 contacted the company for quotes. NASCAR will not aid in payment of new signs. Hunter will meet with the Barnes of All trades to review quotes and the worst sign on the 52 bypass will be our priority to replace.

B) Purchase of additional Light pole flags for poles on Pearl Street and South Main, deferred to next year.

C) Repairing sprinklers at the Rose Garden on Pearl Street will be deferred until next year, since the power to the sprinkler system must be relocated.

9) Fall Cleanup Day: Saturday November 1st.

10) Unfinished business: The black pots on the square have several dead plants and the pots at Trinity Methodist on Pearl Street are also dead. The committee by unanimous vote wants all the pots removed from the square since the city does not have the manpower to keep the pots watered.

11) Adjournment at 6:05pm – next meeting set for October 15,2025