Darlington Beautification Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

Date: Tuesday June 16, 2026

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:07 PM.

Attendance

Present: Peggy Cohen, Becky Ishman, Roxie Gregg, Linda Beckham, Letha Martin, and Hunter Thomas

Absent: Vivian Jackson

Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on April 14, 2026, were reviewed and approved unanimously by all members present.

Financial Report

Hunter Thomas provided the financial report, informing the board that budget fund for the year is currently $6,752:00.

Administrative Update

Kendric Hollarman is serving as the Chief of Streets and Sanitation; Steve Abbot is the special Projects manager under Mr. Hollarman and will be aiding the beautification committee for any projects.

Garden Club Update

The Garden Club has installed the BLUE STAR MEMORIAL at the New Courthouse.

Pride of Darlington Award

The pride of Darlington signs are awaiting final draft approval. Hunter Thomas to follow-up.

The committee voted to present the Pride of Darlington Award to East & Calla – Boutique and Salon. Peggy Cohen and Hunter Thomas visited the Barnes of All Trades in Lamar and arranged for the fabrication of 2 new Pride signa. One new sign will feature a base to allow for placement in front of businesses without grass. Two new signs were designed and by unanimous vote were approved by the committee for purchase and expenditure of $900:00

New Projects

No new projects are planned.

Light Pole Frames

The board had unanimously approved the purchase of additional light pole frames to replace those that are broken. An email was sent to the company Downtown Decorations, but no reply has been received.

Hunter spoke with Kendrick Hollarman to determine how many brackets are broken. Kendrick indicated that all frame brackets are either broken or missing parts. Hunter will check at the storage facility to confirm whether new brackets are needed, then we might consider getting Darlington tech to replace them after new funding is received in July 2026.

Rose Garden Sprinklers

Repairs to the sprinkler system at the Rose Garden on Pearl Street were discussed and Hunter has contacted a city approved electrician to move the control box to a power pole at the adjacent Cain's tennis courts. C&S Landscaping installed the original system and the committee unanimously approved spending the remainder of our budget on repairs.

New Business

A proposal was made to place artwork in the 13 pots around the square. The metal stakes can be purchased for $85 dollars piece from Barnes of All Trades. Proposed artwork included 1) SC state bird 2) State flower 3) Pineapple 4) Darlington oak 5) cotton6) Pearl of Pee Dee 7) Darlington in circle 8) Race car 9) American flag 10) outline of state 11) moon and palmetto tree. The committee will hold this purchase until new funding after July 2026

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2026.

Minutes Prepared By: The minutes of this meeting were recorded and prepared by Peggy Cohen, President. Any corrections or amendments should be submitted prior to the next scheduled meeting for approval and inclusion in the official record.