

Minutes of Beautification Committee meeting of March 5, 2008

Present: Withrow (chairing), Clark, Eccleston, Gonsalves, Gordon, Hall, Lyons, Weibe. Also attending: Keener, James, Nelder, and Lambeth

Absent: Smith, Cox

NOTE: ALL FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL START AT 4 PM

1. Withrow called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. Minutes of the 2/2008 meeting were accepted.
3. Old business
 - A. Sandman Project

Bob Fitzsimons of the Parks and Recreation Committee held a public meeting Feb. 23 to gather public input. Minutes of the meeting were distributed. Herb Wiebe noted that several residents of the Kure Dunes and Kure Beach Village want a sports field for their children combined with a green space. Many people misunderstood a “rain garden” to be a pond rather than a drainage system.

The entire space is 290' by 103'; the play area would be roughly 50' by 75'. Wiebe commented that a maritime forest is not compatible with recreation space.

Lambeth noted that something should be done with the space rather than leaving it as it is.

Wiebe noted that building on the Sandman lot would landlock Beach Walk's empty property where children also play.

Clark moved that a walkway from the Sandman property serve as entry to the Beach Walk “playground.” The committee approved the motion unanimously.

Part or all of the Beautification Committee will meet with the Parks and Rec. Committee to move the project forward.

- B. Atlantic Avenue
CAMA contract has not been received. No preliminary plans are available.
Walkway construction project is postponed until after tourist season.
 - C. Standardized signs

The committee will ask for a budget of \$5000 to commission designs for the town's signage system.

Members discussed preferences for standardizing signs, including using consolidated signs with many informational points rather than an individual sign for each type of information.

The committee hopes to have two or three sign choices available for residents to vote on at the April 26th street fair.

D. Planting and landscaping at city entrance signs and Town Hall.

Clark reported water restrictions are still in effect. Clark asked for a vote on sign posts at these locations. By a vote of 4 to 3, the committee supported round, nautical looking poles. James noted that the \$550 that we need for mulch at Town Hall is available.

E. 2008 Projects

Discussion of budget requests:

The Committee's 2008-2009 budget will show revenue of:

\$222,356 from CAMA for the Atlantic Avenue Walkway
\$73,019 from TDA for the Atlantic Avenue Walkway
\$2,240 from Cape Fear Garden Club for landscaping signs

Expenses were estimated at:

\$750 for Sandman property design
\$10,000 for landscaping maintenance (tree plantings, Atlantic Avenue, entry signs, Town Hall and Police/Fire signs)
\$5,000 for coordinated sign designs
\$2,000 for landscaping pump stations and raised planters by tennis courts at Joe Eakes Park.
\$296,475 for Atlantic Avenue walkway
\$1,100 in-kind expenses for Atlantic Avenue walkway

Withrow will submit the budget requests at the town's budget meeting.

F. Oceanfront Park

Withrow reported that the committee has had only one organizational meeting and plans are still in flux.

Several members commented that the park should not have parking spaces on the oceanfront.

G. Charter

The committee agreed to abide by its original mission statement.

4. New business—none
5. Members' Comments—no comments
6. The next meeting was set for April 14th at 4:00 pm.

All future committee meetings will begin at 4 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Clark