

BRAAC Meeting Minutes
August 7th, 2014

BRAAC Members Present: Bo Henderson, Rita Wiseman, Melissa Picket, Barbra Wright, Curt Andrews, Anne Barnes, and Deborah McDowell arrived mid-way through the meeting

BRAAC Members Absent: Myra Scoggins,

Staff Members: Jennifer Brown, Scott Fogleman, and Erin Kegley.

The meeting was called to order by Bo at 5:30 p.m.

Approve July Minutes – Rita made a motion to approve, Melissa seconded it and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

Hallmark Memorial Update- Bo wanted to mention before starting on the Budget Update topic, the Hallmark Family has no ties to the spot where Hallmark Memorial is. The Hallmark Family cleared the decision to move the Memorial to a different location.

Budget Update – Jennifer handed out the July 1st, 2014-2015 fiscal year financial statements BRAAC budget. The previous budget, July 1st 2013 to June 30th 2014, have to be finalized before being presented BRAAC council. Melissa asked what the \$3,000 transfer is for. Jennifer stated that the \$3,000 transfer is for running the fountain in Broyhill Park, and that pays for the electricity and upkeep of the fountain.

2015 Dates- Jennifer stated that Chris and Jennifer decided that April 25th would be a good date for clean-up day. This date was chosen because Easter and the wine festival are earlier in the month and will avoid conflict with both those events. Jennifer also stated that Planting Day could be more than just one day. The days could be the 18th through the 22nd of May. Jennifer mentioned that Blowing Rock Parks and Recreation will be the main contact to call for giving out information and scheduling volunteers. Rita mentioned that one or two days would be a better option instead of offering more than 2 days because we will not get much participation. Rita suggested May 20th and 21st. Anne asked how much planning would be involved. Jennifer stated that all we need to know is the day and time they are coming and Chris will have things ready. Fall Planting Day for 2015 will be Wednesday November 4th and Thursday November 5th. Rita asked will all these dates be posted on the calendar. Jennifer stated that yes they will all be posted on the Town Calendar.

Gossip Park Update- Scott contacted Wells Fargo and their landscaper about Gossip Park and they have upgraded the landscaping and the Town is going to pressure wash the stone work and fix the sign. Jennifer mentioned that the Garden Club needed to be approached about fixing the sign in Gossip Park. Rita asked if the Garden Club still wants to have this sign because there is no family now here connected with this Garden. Anne asked who will maintain Gossip Park. Scott stated that we are hoping that Wells Fargo will take it over. Rita made a motion to turn the sign question over to the Garden Club via Bo and Anne. Curt seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Koerschner Park & Annie Cannon Garden Projects- Jennifer stated that these two parks need some attention. Benches need work, stairs need to be replaced the rock wall needs repair, the hedge work in Annie Cannon needs to be replaced, and the pond needs work. Bo asked about getting a proposal for these plans including the associated costs. Scott suggested that BRAAC members take a look at the parks and see what ideas they might have as well. Bo agreed and said it would be nice to check to see what needs to be done. Bo also mentioned a possible new location for the Hallmark Memorial could be at the roundabout in Broyhill Park with a new sign. Jennifer stated that next month we could discuss options for moving.

Annual Fundraising Letter- Jennifer stated that 4,449 letters were sent out.

Christmas Tree Proposal For Council- Bo asked about the desired place for the sacrificial tree. Jennifer asked if we need to make a proposal to Town Council for the sacrificial tree. Scott mentioned that yes there needs to be proposal made to Council. Bo mentioned that there has been enough money

pledged to get a tree, we just need to find a place to put it and maintain it to keep it between 12-14ft. Anne motioned we pursue a live tree in the park, keep it trimmed to stay at 12-14ft, and use the tree for the lighting at Christmas in a spot to be determined by Chris. Rita seconded the motion and it was a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held Thursday, September 4th, 2014 at Town Hall at 5:30 p.m.