

Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory Commission
Minutes
November 5, 2015

BRAAC Members Attending: Bo Henderson, Curt Andrews, Melissa Pickett, Deborah McDowell, and Jennifer Chic

BRAAC Members Absent: Barbara Wright, Anne Barnes

Staff Members: Scott Fogleman, Jennifer Brown, Chris Pate, Scott Hilton, and Erin Kegley

The meeting was called to order by Bo at 5:36 pm.

Approve October 1, 2015 Minutes- Curt made a motion to approve the minutes, Melissa seconded it and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

Budget Update/Annual Fundraising Collection/Hanging Basket Collection- Jennifer stated that she will send an email of the budget update to all BRAAC Members. Melissa informed BRAAC that 98 thank you cards were sent out, and 31 out of the 93 sent back there updated email addresses, and 3 marked that they would like to be volunteers.

Project List (Annie Cannon, Koerschner, Broyhill & Davant) - Curt stated that he took two trips with Jennifer, Chris, and Erin and never knew that Koerschner was even a park. He mentioned how impressed he is with the work that the Parks and Recreation Department puts into all parks in the Town, and while walking around Curt mentioned how surprised he is about the direction BRAAC has taken when deciding what needs attention. Curt stated that he is surprised that Legacy Garden is not Town property and BRAAC has agreed to maintain this property, while there are parts of Town property that need major attention. He stated that he would rather see BRAAC put money towards parks and places around Town, and would like to encourage each member of BRAAC to take a tour with Jennifer, Chris, and Erin. Curt pointed out how much the tour showed him what the \$7,500 going towards Legacy Garden could do for Town property. Curt stated that he would like to have an agenda item for the next meeting; Constructive titles for BRAAC's vision for each member of the board: Coordinator, Mentor, Promoter, and Fundraiser. He is interested in creating sub-committees and focus groups to help with fundraising and promotion for the Town, and also put together presentations to Foundations to help with funding. He pointed out that in the presentations he would like to communicate how BRAAC works with Parks and Recreation, here are the parks now, and here is where they can be, he would like to see BRAAC take more upon themselves. Bo agreed and mentioned that BRAAC should start with contacting the Broyhill Foundation because we know they are willing to donate. Bo also mentioned that the first task is determining what parks are honored for someone and what parks have naming rights. Melissa stated that BRAAC has been talking about projects but haven't moved or done any of the projects. Melissa said that BRAAC needs to be an action group. She pointed out that the garden in front of Memorial Park is Town property and we need to be maintaining it. Chris stated that the President of the Garden Club approached him about a plan to match the Town and presented the idea that she would like for Chris to take control. Scott stated that he would recommend BRAAC going to Council and talk to them about partnership with the Garden Club. Bo asked Chris to talk to the

President of the Garden Club to get more detail on the Memorial Park garden. Jennifer stated that the Rotary Club Stage at Annie Cannon Park was built in 2004, and The Blowing Rock Stage Company used it for a while but no one uses it anymore. She pointed out that if the stage was removed, Chris could do so much with that area. Melissa stated that BRAAC needs to help come up with a vision, and present that to the Rotary Club and get permission. Bo stated that the first thing BRAAC needs to do is contact Legacy Garden owners and state that BRAAC may not be maintaining the gardens anymore.

321 Gateways and Median- Scott stated that Jennifer, Chris, and Chris Taylor from Public Works met with the Designer of the project of the Gateway and discussed the detail of the construction so they can come up with a plan for the Gateway and get a cost estimate ready. Scott also stated that the Parkway Gateway sign design is under review.

BRAAC Truck- Jennifer stated that the BRAAC truck's body is in great condition. There are a few small dents and it needs to be painted which will cost \$2,420. Bo asked if there is enough funds. Jennifer stated that when she sends the email BRAAC can talk about it. Melissa looked at last month's report and notice BRAAC does have enough funds. Bo made a motion to fix the BRAAC truck. Deborah approved, Curt seconded, and it was a unanimous vote.

Other Business- Bo mentioned that BRAAC still needs to meet every month.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18pm.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held December 3rd, 2015 at Town Hall at 5:30 pm.