

Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory Commission
Minutes
November 2, 2017

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

Staff Members: Jennifer Brown and Chris Pate

Approve September 7, 2017 Minutes: Bo made a motion to approve, Jennifer Chick seconded it and it was a unanimous to approve.

Budget Update/Annual Fundraising Collection/Hanging Basket Collection: Jennifer Brown stated that to date BRAAC has collected \$26,615.74 of the estimated \$25,365 and \$3,332.71 has been spent on the PO Box rental and the fundraising letter.

Virginia Tech Conceptual Plan Update/Community Foundation Grant Application: Jennifer Brown stated that the Virginia Tech conceptual plan was presented to Town Council during their October meeting and they unanimously approved the plan. We can move forward with an official engineered design and finding funding to implement the plan. She stated that the Community Foundation Grant that BRAAC applied for to implement the Park Avenue portion of the plan was denied. Jennifer also stated that once there was a plan she can go back to the Broyhill Foundation and show them the finalized plan and costs associated with it and see if they would be willing to give more money. After further discussion, it was decided to consider as many options as possible for funding once the finalized plan was complete.

Memorial Park Trees: Jennifer Brown stated that the Memorial Park trees were going to be placed on the November Town Council agenda for Town Council to decide what steps to take to replacing the trees in Memorial Park. It was decided as a group that as many members that could attend should attend and even speak about it during the meeting.

321/Valley Boulevard Landscape Design: Jennifer Brown stated that the proposed landscape design of Valley Boulevard was presented to Town Council during the October meeting. Town Council voted unanimously to have DOT create a final plan that incorporated the highest quality landscaping that was possible. Once the plan is designed, it's contracted out, and implemented, the Town would not have to take over the maintenance of Valley Boulevard until sometime in 2020.

Public Art Update: Jennifer Brown stated that during the September Town Council meeting Town Council voted to have BRAAC oversee the Town's Public Art Policy. She will send each BRAAC member the draft and then it can be discussed at the next meeting.

Debra McDowell and Curtis Andrews terms expire in 2018: Debra McDowell stated that she needs a year off BRAAC so she will not be reapplying. Jennifer Chick stated that she has a lot going on right now and she would like to end her term early. She said she would stay until March when her spot gets filled.

Other Business: Bo stated that since the severe flooding occurred and the major damage done to the Laurel Lane bridge/dam into Annie Cannon that this would be an opportune time to approach the Cannon family to help fix it. Jennifer Brown said she would discuss it with Ed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 4, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.