

Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory  
Minutes  
May 2, 2019  
Town Council Chambers 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Melissa Pickett, Curt Andrews, Carol Knapp, & Chris Wetmore

Members Absent: Bo Henderson

Staff Present: Jennifer Brown, Chris Pate, & Baker Stanley

Begin: 9:06 a.m.

End: 11:20 a.m.

**Approve April 2, 2019 Minutes:** Chris made a motion to approve the April 2, 2019 minutes, Curt seconded, and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

**Budget Update/Annual Fundraising Collection/Hanging Basket Collection:** Jennifer stated that she would send out the financials once she received them.

**Flowers and Hanging Baskets Update:** Chris Pate stated that the flowers and baskets will be delivered the week after Mother's Day. He also stated that we have added flowers to the new planters in front of Memorial Park.

**Glen Burney Trail Update:** Jennifer stated that the bridge is being currently being constructed and should be completed by May 10<sup>th</sup>. She also stated that a section of the trail washed out about a two-foot-wide area and needs to be repaired. She stated that would happen after the bridge was completed. She informed the commission that she has requested funding in the upcoming budget year to contract out trail maintenance each month and hopes to have it approved. Melissa stated that BRAAC really needs to approach the Cannon family and request funding to improve Annie Cannon Gardens. Chris Pate stated that the bridge on Laurel Lane and the dam from Broyhill to Annie Cannon needs to be fixed as well before any improvements are made to the garden.

**Other Business:** Jennifer stated that the 2-5-year-old playground has been closed off and will be removed because it is failing. The railing is broken as well as posts and it is settling. She stated that the larger playground equipment is still ok; however, it will need to be replaced soon. She mentioned that a Parks & Recreation Trust Fund grant could be applied for; however, typically to be funded, the project would have to have three added elements to the project to qualify for funding and it wasn't guaranteed that we would be awarded the grant. If we did come up with three new elements it would increase the cost of the project. Melissa stated that she thought about adding an Amphitheatre, a native learning garden, and renovating the 1888 museum. Carol suggested having a sundial added and Chris suggested that the surface of the playground not hold heat, so the kid's feet would not burn.

**Other Business:** Jennifer stated that the remaining money from the Broyhill Foundation was spent renovating the berm at Broyhill. Chris stated that the contractor who installed all the rock also worked very closely with the Broyhill's working in their park in Lenoir. He stated that the contractor could possibly help us when asking for more money to make improvements because he has a working relationship with them and they trust him. Curt stated that we need to update our photos and presentation so that we can ask for more funding.

Jennifer also stated that the swan had been removed from Broyhill Lake. It had been aggressive to our staff and to visitors at the park. Chris Pate stated that the Carolina Waterfowl Rescue had taken it in and is going to give it a good home.

**Other Business:** Chris Wetmore asked who was in charge of 321 Valley Boulevard because there are rocks that have fallen from where DOT widened the road. Jennifer stated that DOT is still responsible for Valley Boulevard until the landscaping contract is completed. She stated she would talk to Kevin and bring it to DOT's attention.

