

## Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory

### Minutes

January 9, 2020

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

Staff Present: Shane Fox, Chris Pate, Cory Cathcart, & Jennifer Brown

Begin: 9:04 a.m.

End: 11:40 a.m.

**Minutes Approval** – Bo made a motion to approve the December minutes, Curt seconded, and there was a unanimous vote to approve.

**Budget Update** – Jennifer stated that to date BRAAC has collected \$29,590, which is \$4,540 greater than the forecasted revenue for the budget year. BRAAC spent \$6,831.81 on contracting the holiday decorations for the large blue spruce in front of Town Hall and for the fundraising letter. Chris Pate stated that he has begun the process of ordering the hanging baskets for this Spring. Bo asked if the new light poles that were installed along Sunset were able to accommodate the hanging baskets instead of the pots. Chris replied that the new light poles were fiber glass and could not hold the hanging baskets. Chris added that he was looking into the possibility of increasing the pot size to be able to accommodate more plants and to affect more “pop” on the poles down Sunset.

**Town Council Retreat Update** – Jennifer briefly updated BRAAC on what was presented to Town Council during their annual retreat. She displayed pictures of playgrounds and conceptual landscape drawings of the entrances to downtown at North and South Main Street, and Sunset Drive from Valley Boulevard. She stated that staff has been directed by Town Council to proceed with designing and quoting a new playground in Memorial Park and the landscaping of the entrances. These will involve BRAAC and will be presented to Town Council for its review and final decision for approval. Shane Fox noted that the Blowing Rock Village Foundation will be seeking conceptual approval from Town Council for their proposal to supplemental Broyhill Park, after which it would be presented to BRAAC for recommendations and back to Town Council for its review and decision for approval. Jennifer reported that Town Council wants BRAAC to investigate what is required for Blowing Rock to become a Tree City USA community. Chris Wetmore volunteered to investigate and report back to BRAAC at the February meeting.

**2020 Project Ideas** – Melissa stated that she would like to continue to request funds for Broyhill Park improvements even though the Village Foundation is trying to improve the Broyhill Park/American Legion bank. She stated that there were many other areas that still need to be improved and renovated along with the bank. Everyone was in agreement and Melissa and Curt stated that they would move forward with updating the funding request to present to the Broyhill Foundation.