

Appearance Commission Minutes

Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015

7 o'clock PM

Newton Fire Department

Attendees:

Melvin Caldwell
Collette Touchette
Bill Sigmon

Jim Gargis
Tom Rowe

Absent:

Sheila Iveson
Toni Woods
Becky Webb
Sandra Waters

Guests:

Doyle
Susie Wilson
Zach Berry

I. Welcome

Collette Touchette called the meeting to order and welcomed all members.

II Approval of Minutes

Due to a lack of a quorum the minutes were not approved.

III Unfinished Business

A. Financial report

- Our budget of \$13,150 was approved for FY 2015-2016.
- No charges were made to our budget during July.
- Charge from Allegra should come through in August.

B. Hwy 10/16 and Little's Medians

- Doyle reported the dead gardenias at Little's median have been replaced with red drift roses.
- Doyle presented lists of plants that have been planted at the Hwy 10/16 intersection, those not yet planted, and those that died.
- Those plants not yet installed will be planted in the fall.
- Bill Sigmon recommended that a pre-emergent be used and soil tests be done before we plant in the fall. Doyle will provide results of the test at the September meeting.
- The DOT has not yet painted the curbing. Collette will check on this.

Teen Leadership project

- 10 pictures were enlarged and installed in store fronts with short descriptions.
- Melvin will install the last description at Claremont Office Supply.
- Collette found 12 more old pictures but will need to have them re-scanned as only partial prints came out.
- Collette will contact George Long to obtain more information about Sanitary Grocery.

C. Curb Appeal

Newton Appearance Commission

- The winner has been notified.
- Collette will assemble the team to do a preliminary visit and plan the project requirements.
- Collette sent out 19 letters to businesses requesting donations.
- Letters were also distributed to the commission members to use for solicitation of donations.

D. Looking Better Together

- Collette stopped by 21st street and noticed a new sidewalk had been installed.
- 2 new candidates have been identified. The commission will discuss these at the September meeting.

E Civic Group Signs

- The Brick Wall is on the Food Lion side of the property. It is approximately 10ft. long and 55 ins. high. It may display about 8 signs depending on their size.
- Collette notified the property manager of our intent and requested approval to use the wall and electricity which runs to the poles. We were then informed that the property had sold and a new property manager has been contracted. Sean Hovis will request approval of the new property manager.

F. Patriotic Decorating Contest

- Collette reported that there were 3 business and 3 homes competing to date.
- Entry forms were placed at City Hall, the library and the Recreation City and a dropbox was placed at City Hall.

G. Reunion Booth

- The commission reviewed the checklist of needs, made assignments and identified times for members to man the booth.
- Seeds were ordered. It was agreed that only seeds would be passed out.

H. Adopt a Spot

- No progress had been made on potential Adopt-a-Spot candidates
- KCCB met on 8/13 to redo their Adopt-a-Spot.
- Can Technibilt be a candidate?

I. Looking Good Update

- Collette Touchette sent letters to Renwood Mills and Kaleidiscop. Their pictures were also posted on Facebook.
- Work on the dumpster ordinance is still in process

J. Thornburg Drive Mowing

- City Council agreed to have Newton take care of the mowing and weeding.

Newton Appearance Commission

K. Facebook

Melvin reported we had almost 400 members, He also suggested that we update our profile picture. Collette requested that Melvin come up with a new profile picture.

Next Meeting: September 10, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Collette Touchette, Appearance Commission Chairperson