



**AMHERST COUNTY
ROUTE 29 BUSINESS
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**



MINUTES

DATE: June 27, 2023
TIME: 4:00 PM
PLACE: Administrative Office Comp

1. Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Calvin Kennon, Lori Saunders, Tony McBride, Nate Young, Teresa Brooks, Dottie Rucker & Benita Unrue

MEMBERS ABSENT: Beverly Jones & Virginia Myers

STAFF PRESENT: Tyler Creasy, Stacey Stinnett & Deputy Martin

Vice Chair Kennon called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Route 29 Business Beautification Recommendation:

Motion: Motion made to approve the agenda.

Motion made by: Brooks

Second: Saunders

Motion carried by a 7-0 vote.

3. Approval of Minutes for May 23, 2023

A. Minutes Attachment

Mr. Kennon stated that the minutes did not include attendance for that meeting and that he would like to see that included on these minutes like it has been done in previous meetings.

Route 29 Business Beautification Recommendation:

Motion: Motion made to approve the May 23, 2023 meeting minutes with the addition of

attendance.

Motion made by: Saunders

Second: Brooks

Motion carried by a 5-0 vote. (Rucker & Unrue absent)

4. Mini-Grant Discussion

Mr. Young stated that the property located beside McDonalds has the potential for positive improvement. Mr. Young stated that he would keep the committee updated.

Mr. Creasy updated the committee on the lot across from Smile Gas. Mr. Creasy stated that they would be planting trees and erecting a fence and that they would be applying for the mini-grant.

5. Discussion of Action List

A. Action List Attachment

Mrs. Saunders briefly reviewed the two letters that she had written to VDOT and Judge Eggleston. The VDOT letter was a letter of appreciation and the letter to Judge Eggleston was briefly explaining the intent of the Rt 29 Business Beautification Committee in hopes that he will enforce code enforcement to keep the corridor clean and compliant.

Mrs. Saunders stated she would send the letters to staff for their letterhead and have Chair Jones sign them.

Mr. McBride said that (25) twenty-five new banners had been placed and he would install them as soon as they came in.

Mrs. Saunders stated that she had spoken with Stacey McBride in Accounting and what was required from her when submitting a grant check from the EDA.

Mr. Young stated he would get with Joy on creating a letterhead for the committee.

Mr. Kennon reminded the committee that it was time to consider the second quarter of the A+ Achievement Award.

The committee had a brief discussion regarding the possible candidates.

Route 29 Business Beautification Recommendation:

Motion: Move to vote Cascio & Sons as the second quarter winner of the A+ Achievement Award.

Motion made by: Saunders

Second: Brooks

Motion carried by a 7-0 vote.

6. Budget Review

Mr. Young briefly reviewed the budget with the committee.

7. Old/New Business

There was a brief discussion regarding the available position. Mr. Young stated that there might be a potential internal candidate but he would let the committee know more as he learns more.

Mr. Young briefed the committee on his meeting with VDOT and what plantings they favored versus vegetation that they did not care for, such as crape myrtles. VDOT favors red oaks and shrubs.

Mr. Young and Mrs. Saunders stated that they would get together and compile a list of what plantings would conform to particular areas throughout the corridor in the Master Plan and bring it back at the next meeting to discuss.

Mr. Young stated that he had gotten the permit from VDOT regarding the Madison Heights sign and Mr. Bride would be working on the design.

Mr. Young briefly updated the committee on Arbys and Cookout.

Mr. Creasy stated that currently the charter reads that there are only (2) staff members serving on the Route 29 Business Beautification Committee and he needs to correct that to read (3) staff members serving. Mr. Creasy stated that he would draft the new charter and that this would need to be taken up with the Planning Commission since the Route 29 Business Beautification Committee is a subcommittee of the Planning Commission. There was a consensus to bring this back to the next Route 29 meeting so that Beverly Jones could be present.

Mr. Creasy stated that he would like to see the Route 29 BBC present an annual report to present to the Planning Commission.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01 pm.

Route 29 Business Beautification Recommendation:

Motion to adjourn.

Motion made by: Saunders

Second: Brooks

Motion carried by a 7-0 vote.

Chairman