

RALEIGH APPEARANCE COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting
Thursday, December 19, 2002

Present: Art Chard, Hillman Duncan, Stephanie Garner, Susan Goodmon, Kevin Kane, Charlie Madison, Chad Meadows, Tara Schwenzfeier, Brian Starkey, Courtney Telfaire, Catherine Williams, Beth Yerxa, and George Young.

Not present: Mark Dickey and David Lazzo.

Staff: Bob Mosher, Doug Hill, and Kanika Heyward.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

Charlie Madison called for review of the minutes of the November 21, 2002 meeting. Brian Starkey requested that the minutes reflect that he had arrived late to the meeting. Kevin Kane moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Stephanie Garner seconded the motion. The amended minutes were approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Landscape and Design Committee

Brian Starkey reported that at its December 3 meeting the committee had reviewed plans for Triangle Town Center Phase 2, Walgreens, and the Fallstar Office Building, plus set a tentative timeline for addressing its 2003 work program items. At the December 17 meeting members had reviewed plans for conversion of a Hillsborough Street office building to retail.

Legislative Committee

Beth Yerxa stated that the committee had prioritized its 2003 work program items. She also reported that the committee is completing work on recommendations regarding street performance standards, for presentation to City Council in January.

Ad Hoc Stormwater Detention Design Committee

Beth Yerxa reported that the committee had not met in December.

Public Awareness Committee

Courtney Telfaire reported that the Fall/Winter newsletter is in final draft form. She also asked for commission input regarding a topic for the spring workshop.

Executive Committee

Charlie Madison reported that the City Council had approved the 2003 commission work program at the December 18 council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

2003 Work Program Items

Charlie Madison outlined projected timetables for addressing each item. Discussion of several topics followed:

Transition yard standards -- Tara Schwenzfeier noted that while wider yards were the aim of present ordinances, mitigating language had allowed smaller, horticulturally unsound yards in many cases. Bob Mosher suggested members undertake a field review of previously approved yards to get a better feel for how they have fared.

Open space standards – Bob Mosher suggested the Legislative Committee consider addressing this topic prior to looking into appearance issues for rental conversions, in light of the opportunity to link commission study with other, concurrent city efforts.

Litter abatement – Catherine Williams stated she had been in touch with state and Charlotte officials concerning their programs. Chad Meadows felt that local initiatives need to be better defined before a specific timetable can be set. Charlie Madison, noting that uncovered loads are a primary offender, suggested the commission consider proposing that a flat fee be imposed on all landfill loads, with all funds collected put toward the costs of roadside clean-ups.

Street widths – Charlie Madison suggested discussion with transportation officials be initiated soon. Kevin Kane stated he was encouraged regarding design flexibility by a presentation made to the Wade/Oberlin plan advisory group.

Arena sign – Charlie Madison recommended meeting with city and arena staff to determine options for addressing the general issue of signs in thoroughfare rights-of-way.

NEW BUSINESS

Downtown West Gateway Small Area Plan

Doug Hill noted that City Council had suggested the commission actively assist in the development of the plan. Charlie Madison asked Tara Schwenzfeier, Susan Goodmon, and George Young to serve on the plan task force.

Raleigh Convention Center Feasibility Study

Bob Mosher asked whether the commission would like a status report on the study at its January meeting; commission members felt it would be helpful.

Southeast Raleigh Comprehensive Plan Update

Bob Mosher gave a brief overview of the plan. After brief discussion, it was decided that the Southeast Area Planner, Erin Dando, be asked to present the plan at the January commission meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

JANUARY 2003 MEETING SCHEDULE

Landscape and Design Committee	Tues., Jan. 7 – 4:00 PM; Room 303; Tues., Jan. 21 – 4:00 PM; Room 303
Legislative Committee	Wed., Jan. 8 – 5:00 PM; Room 303
Executive Committee	Thurs., Jan. 9 – 7:30 AM; Big Ed’s
Public Awareness Committee	Thurs., Jan. 9 – 4:30 PM; Room 400-A
Appearance Commission	Thurs., Jan. 16 – 5:00 PM; Room 305
Ad Hoc Stormwater Detention Design Committee	TBA; Helios Coffee