

RALEIGH APPEARANCE COMMISSION
Minutes of the Business Meeting
Thursday, March 22, 2012

Members present: Elizabeth Byrd, Asa Fleming, Bang Le, Leza Mundt, Dean Rains, Julieta Sherk, and Vincent Whitehurst.

Members not present: Jedidiah Gant (*excused*), John Holmes (*excused*), Wayne Maiorano (*excused*), Dean Rains (*excused*), Jim Sherron (*excused*), Robert Taylor (*excused*), Lee Tripi (*unexcused*), Ted Van Dyk (*excused*), and Stan Williams (*excused*).

Staff present: Doug Hill.

REVIEW OF FEBRUARY, 2012 MINUTES POSTPONED

As a quorum of members was not present, review of the February 23 minutes was postponed until the April 26 commission meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Commission Comments on UDO Draft

Elizabeth Byrd, chairing the meeting in Ted Van Dyk's absence, called on commission members to review the Initial Comments list and submit any revisions to Leza Mundt by Wednesday, March 28; Doug Hill is to send word to members not in attendance. The final list is to be forwarded to the Planning Commission for consideration as that body proceeds with its review. Elizabeth Byrd also made note of a separate memo being prepared by Ted Van Dyk outlining recommendations for design review; that document also is to be presented to the Planning Commission.

Leesville Road Widening

Elizabeth Byrd noted Ted Van Dyk plans to forward a copy of the commission's November 16 recommendations regarding the road widening proposal to the members of City Council's Public Works Committee. She added that the need to remove a cemetery might be eliminated if the wide medians being proposed were narrower in the respective road section.

2012 Sir Walter Raleigh Awards Planning

Elizabeth Byrd reported she had spoken to Lee Tripi regarding the space he had noted might be available for the award ceremonies, but that space is no longer available. She said Ted Van Dyk plans to speak with the Mayor regarding the possibility of obtaining a reduced rate for space at the Convention Center or Performing Arts Center. She added that the Stockroom (upstairs in the Mahler Building on Fayetteville Street) might be available, as might the new Natural Resources Center of the NC Museum of Natural Sciences. She plans to confer with Wayne Maiorano about approaching artist/ public art advocate [Larry Kirkland](#) regarding the latter's serving as event speaker, for which the other commission members expressed their support. Ms. Byrd noted Ted Van Dyk is to consult with ULI Triangle regarding the organization sponsoring the speaker; she called on other commission members to review the list of recent sponsors (previously distributed via email), and to propose additional potential donors.

NEW BUSINESS

Commission Annual Report/ 2012-13 Work Program Items

Elizabeth Byrd noted she and Ted Van Dyk will be working on the report of the past year’s activities for presentation to Council. Discussion followed regarding the coming year’s Work Program. The following possible program items were noted:

- Identify appearance-challenged places or functions for which the commission could provide guidance regarding possible improvements; e.g., other wall-banner projects, mural repair/ repainting, or downtown garbage pick-up (i.e., rather than roll-out bins lining sidewalks during dinner hour, provide compactor locations).
- Begin a public dialogue on ensuring design excellence in Raleigh:
 - During 2012-13, outline a strategy for approaching the issue (e.g., explore broad-range methods for fostering community engagement, identify possible partners/ collaborating organizations, outline education/ information outreach opportunities, focus on specific building types and/or functional locations, engage NCSU & UNC students in case studies/ design competition, hold public workshops & charrettes).
 - During 2013-14, implement strategy components toward developing specific methodologies to encourage/ assure top quality design.

OTHER BUSINESS

Special Event Signage Task Force

Elizabeth Byrd noted meetings are underway, adding that she is serving but Wayne Maiorano is the commission’s official representative. There is no defined deadline for completion, but the hope is that recommendations may be forthcoming in 4 to 6 weeks.

Urban Reset Design Forum

Doug Hill noted several commission members had been able to attend the event, held March 16 and 17.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:58 PM.

APRIL 2012 MEETING SCHEDULE

Development Review Committee/ Strategic-Outreach Committee	Thurs., April 12 - 4:30 PM; Room 809, OEP
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Development Review Committee/ Appearance Commission	Thurs., April 26 - 4:30 PM; Room 809, OEP
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