



2013

Annual Report

Community Appearance Commission of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County



A Note from the Chairman

The Community Appearance Commission (CAC) continued to perform its primary tasks in 2013: supporting Roots Day, reviewing the designs of publicly-funded building projects, and recognizing exemplary buildings and landscaping for their contribution to our community's appearance. The Commission also continued its educational series holding four seminars during the year.

The Commission also used its time over the past year to begin addressing utility tree trimming. Greensboro has adopted a new utility vegetation management ordinance to address residents' concerns about the tree pruning practices of Duke Energy. The Commission felt that it may be beneficial for Winston-Salem to adopt a similar policy to preserve the aesthetics of our street trees. The Commission invited Duke Energy representatives from Winston-Salem and Greensboro to join CAC members to discuss the new ordinance and other policies that Duke Energy has or may implement in the future to address maintenance of the urban forest canopy. Commission members hope to be able to provide elected officials with a recommendation on how to proceed in the near future.

We appreciate the support of our elected officials and the Planning Board, and we look forward to a productive year of working to maintain and improve our community's appearance. Commission members welcome suggestions on programs that we can undertake to better serve the community.

Steve Zorn, Chair

Trees and Woodlands Committee

On a cold October 26, 2013, the Community Appearance Commission of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County, the Winston-Salem Vegetation Management Department, and Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful held Community Roots Day in the Castle Heights neighborhood. This year marked the 21st Anniversary of the event that began in 1993 with volunteers planting approximately 85 trees within the Boston-Thurmond neighborhood.

Over 400 volunteers planted more than 450 trees during the event. Seven different varieties of trees were planted including Sourwood, American Hornbeam, Okame Cherry, "Hearts of Gold" Redbud, "Stellar Pink" Dogwood, and "Robin Hill" Serviceberry. Since the inaugural event, over 7,000 trees have been planted throughout the City of Winston-Salem in neighborhoods such as Easton, East Winston,



Hanes Lowrance, Hanes Hosierey, Sunnyside, Maple Street, Happy Hill, Kimberley Park, and West Salem.

Winston-Salem Mayor Pro Tem Vivian Burke and City Council Members Denise Adams, Dan Besse, and Derwin Montgomery welcomed the crowd of volunteers during the opening ceremony. Winston-Salem City

Manager Lee Garrity and Planning Board member Paul Mullican were also in attendance at the event. Reverend Buford of the Solid Rock Baptist Church provided the invocation.

Volunteers were treated to coffee, donuts, and fruit in the morning and a hotdog lunch in the afternoon. Hats and t-shirts were also presented to the volunteers. The event is made possible through grant funds and donations.



Education and Awards Committee

The Education and Awards Committee continued the public educational series started in 2010.

Continuing the partnership with New Garden Landscaping & Nursery, the

CAC sponsored three successful free educational seminars in 2013: Ornamental Shrub Pruning and Spring and Fall Container Gardening. The two Container Gardening seminars were cosponsored by



the Kernersville Community Appearance Commission and the Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden, establishing two new partnerships. These seminars marked the first seminars held in Kernersville and the first Fall Container Gardening seminar sponsored by the CAC. The CAC also sponsored a Tree Planting and Maintenance Seminar in October 2013. For this



seminar, Keith Finch, Director of Vegetation Management for the City of Winston-Salem conducted the seminar and expanded on the information presented in previous Tree Pruning seminars.



The Education and Awards Committee also began planning the 2014 Community Appearance Awards program in the Summer and Fall of 2013. The theme for the upcoming awards program will be green design with Charles Brown as the the keynote speaker. The call for entries took place in September and October with 21 projects being nominated.

Lastly, the Education and Awards Committee nominated and the CAC approved two letters of recognition that were sent to property owners who have made improvements to their respective properties. The letters were sent to Winston-Salem State University for the continued improvements that have been made to the campus over the last several years and to the owner of 126 Spruce Street for the improvements that she has made to her property.

TAPR Committee

During 2013, the Technical Advisory and Project Review Committee reviewed three publicly funded projects: Griffith Elementary School Demolition and Parking Lot, Wake Forest Innovation Quarter Rail with Trail North project, and the Liberty Plaza Vendor Market. The Committee also met with AT&T and the American Tower Corporation to provide comments on the new cell tower ordinance. Furthermore, the Committee established the guidelines for a new signage program that will be incorporated into the 2014 Community Appearance Awards program.

Community Appearance Commission

Steve Zorn, Chair

Charlsey Cornejo, Vice Chair

Scott Arnold, ASLA

Wendi Hartup

Jeanine Bennett

Cory Lambert

David Bergstone

Kismet Loftin-Bell

Chris Freeman

Daniell Nagle

Holly Fulton

Jill Reich

Haywood "Tom" Gibbs

Patrick Welsh

Retiring in 2012 and spring 2013

Ivey Brown Jr.

Jane Rice

Nicole Maurer

Gilbert Monk

Stuart Parks

City-County Planning Board Staff

Amy Crum

City-County Planning Board

Arnold G. King, Chairman

Allan Younger, Vice Chair

Tommy Hicks

Clarence R. Lambe Jr.

Darryl Little

Barry A. Lyons

Lynne Mitchell

Paul W. Mullican

Brenda J. Smith

City of Winston-Salem

Mayor: Allen Joines

City Council

Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward

Denise D. Adams, North Ward

Dan Besse, Southwest Ward

Robert C. Clark, West Ward

Molly Leight, South Ward

Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward

Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward

James Taylor Jr., Southeast Ward

City Manager: Lee Garrity

Forsyth County Commissioners

Richard V. Linville, Chairman

Gloria D. Whisenhunt, Vice Chair

Mark Baker

Walter Marshall

David R. Plyler

Bill Whiteheart

Everette Witherspoon

County Manager: J. Dudley Watts Jr.

Visit our website at: <http://www.citofws.org/planning>
(Select Boards & Commissions)