

Smithfield 2020 Notes from project team meeting of September 1st, 2010

Present:

Jim Abicht	Trey Gwaltney	Peter Stephenson
Rick Bodson	Mark Hall	Judy Winslow
John Edwards	Randy Pack	
Sheila Gwaltney	Russell Parrish	

Façades and streetscape improvements project

Matching grant applications have been submitted by the Olde World Tea Company and the Smithfield Ice Cream Parlor, requesting a cumulative match of \$3700. Both proposals are scheduled for review at the September 21st BHAR meeting. Peter Stephenson confirmed that the \$10,000 funding was released by the Town and deposited in a Smithfield 2020 account.

Liriope Day plans are firming up. The Master Gardeners have formed a project team to support the effort and recruitment of community service groups to assist in planting the liriope is underway. Main Street building owners will be notified (and recruited) in late September. A soil sample submitted by Master Gardeners to Virginia Tech reveals that some minor soil amendment of the targeted curb beds can be accommodated when the liriope is planted. The Town has agreed to remove the excess mulch and to procure the liriope. The target date for Liriope Day is Sunday, October 17th (rain date: October 24th).

America in Bloom project plan

The Chamber of Commerce is proposing that the 2011 Leadership Class take on the America in Bloom program as its project and will be briefing the Town Council Public Works Committee on September 28th. (A parallel project will be proposed for Windsor.) An outline plan was reviewed by Russell Parrish highlighting critical steps leading up to a 2012 evaluation by the AIB organization. Progress reports will be provided by Russell or Connie Rhodes as the Leadership Class is formed and develops the project plan.

Alternative modes of transportation in the Historic District

A proposal to evaluate the feasibility of defining areas of Town as “golf cart friendly” was presented by Randy Pack. Using Cape Charles as a model, the concept allows access to Town roads by local residents and could extend to rentals by visitors. Consensus was positive and Randy was asked to further research the proposal and to present a Concept Definition at the October meeting.

DHCD Virginia Main Street team visit

Jeff Sadler, Virginia Main Street project director, will visit Smithfield Wednesday, October 20th. Objectives for the visit and an agenda are to be developed and presented at the October 6th Project Team meeting.

Four-Point Approach committee structure

To better align 2020 resources with the Main Street Four-Point Approach, a proposal was made and accepted that four permanent task teams be formed and chaired as follows:

- Organization – Rick Bodson
- Promotion – Judy Winslow
- Design – John Edwards
- Economic Restructuring – Mark Hall

The intent is to align 2020 proposals, initiatives and projects into the appropriate task team for definition of scope, identification of resource needs and development of implementation plans.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 6th, 8:30 AM, Arts Center @ 319.

These meeting notes submitted by Rick Bodson.