



2011

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 2011: 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. In addition, the CAC reached out into the community with an ambitious school beautification project.

With the assistance of Amy Crum of the Planning Board staff, CAC members broadened their efforts to include tree-pruning seminars, a series of gardening classes, school beautification, and discussions with Duke Energy about how to better manage tree placement to avoid interference with power lines.

The School Beautification project was a collaboration with the Winston-Salem Foundation, HandsOn NWNC, New Garden Landscaping, and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School system. Thanks to a grant of \$4,000 from the Foundation, the CAC participated in the 9/11 Days of Service and Remembrance event, with volunteer teams planting and landscaping at Ashley and Easton Elementary schools and Winston-Salem Prep Academy. In addition, a greenhouse was assembled at Prep by CAC volunteers.

Members who completed their service in the last year were Joe Bircher, Lauren Boyle, Karen Huey, and Karen Johnson. New members Ivey Brown, Charley Cornejo, Carmina Eder, and Scott Miller joined the group in 2011, and we look forward to benefiting from their energy and enthusiasm.

Our themes for the coming year are public awareness, projects, and partnerships. 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.

Russell J. DuBois, Chairman

Trees and Woodlands Committee

On a sunny October 22, 2011, the Community Appearance Commission (CAC) of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County, the Winston-Salem Vegetation Management Department, and Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful held the 19th Annual Community Roots Day along S. Broad Street in the West Salem Neighborhood. Over 400 volunteers planted more than 400 trees and bushes along the corridor. Princeton Elms, Kwansan Cherries, Sioux Crepe Myrtles, and Soft Touch Hollies were planted during the event.

Winston-Salem Mayor Allen Joines and City Council Members Dan Besse, Molly Leight, Derwin L. Montgomery and James Taylor Jr. welcomed the crowd of volunteers during the opening ceremony. Planning Board members Barry Lyons and Lynne Mitchell also volunteered during the event. Dr. Charles Pettit, Piedmont Baptist College, provided the event's invocation.



Education and Awards Committee

In 2011, the Education and Awards Committee continued the public educational series started in 2010. Working with New Garden Landscaping & Nursery and Old Salem Museums & Gardens, the CAC sponsored six seminars ranging in topics from spring lawn maintenance to holiday decorating. The CAC also continued their relationship with Keith Finch, the City Urban Forester, in sponsoring two free public seminars on tree pruning in the spring and winter of 2011. The CAC also coordinated with the City Marketing Department and Mr. Finch to create a short video on tree planting and placement.

The Education and Awards Committee also began planning the 2012 Community Appearance Awards in the summer of 2011. Pratt Cassity, the Director for the Center for Community Design and Preservation at the University of Georgia, was selected as the keynote speaker for the event. Furthermore, the Call for Entries for the Awards Ceremony was held in October. Nineteen projects were submitted by the public for consideration.





School Beautification Program

The Community Appearance Commission continued and expanded the School Beautification Program in 2011. The program, in partnership with the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools and HandsOn Northwest North Carolina, enhances the appearance of the local schools through small landscaping projects. The School Beautification Program started in Fall 2010 at the suggestion of Council Member James Taylor Jr. with Forest Park Elementary School being selected as the first school to kick off the program.

In 2011, the CAC chose three schools for the program: Ashley Elementary School, Easton Elementary, and Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy. The CAC applied and received a small grant from the Winston-Salem Foundation to fund the landscaping improvements at the schools. Coordinating with the HandsOn Northwest North Carolina's Day of Service Program, the CAC and volunteers installed new landscaping at Ashley and Easton Elementary Schools, installed a new greenhouse at Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy, and did basic landscape maintenance at all three schools.

Letters of Recognition

Letters of Recognition were presented to individuals and companies throughout the year. Letters of Recognition recognize individuals and companies who have made a difference in our community's appearance through quality landscaping, new development or building rehabilitation.

In 2011, the CAC recognized the landscaping at Parkway Presbyterian Church and Forsyth Medical Center with Letters of Recognition.

TAPR Committee

One of the primary obligations of the Community Appearance Commission is to review all publicly-funded projects, as well as any privately-developed property at the request of an elected official. The TAPR Committee is responsible for fulfilling this obligation.

During 2010, the TAPR reviewed four projects that represented the wide range of projects that come before the CAC. The reviewed projects included the streetscape for the southern phase of the Piedmont Triad Research Park, an addition to Vienna Elementary School, a parking lot at the new Kennedy School Campus, and an office building at the Brookwood Business Park.

In 2011, the TAPR also started to work on a strategic plan to address how the CAC can network with other community organizations to maximize all efforts being made to improve the appearance of the city and county. The TAPR also became involved in large-scale community planning projects such as the Peters Creek Parkway Corridor Study.

Community Appearance Commission

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 Jeanine Bennett
 David Bergstone
 Ivey Brown Jr.
 Charlsey Cornejo
 Jane Doub
 Carmina Eder
 Scott Miller, RLA
 Gilbert Monk
 Stuart Parks
 Christopher Ong
 Jane Rice
 Mary Margaret Smith
 Patrick Welsh

Retiring in 2011 and spring 2012

Lauren Boyle
 Karen Hansley-Johnson
 Karen Huey
 Joe Bircher, AIA
 John Shipley, CF

City-County Planning Board Staff
 Amy Crum

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 Dan Besse, Southwest Ward
 Robert C. Clark, West Ward
 Molly Leight, South Ward
 Wanda Merschel, Northwest Ward
 Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward
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