



Graham Appearance Commission Meeting Agenda

April 18, 2022

6:00pm

Graham City Hall

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Invocation
4. Approval of minutes from April 4, 2022 meeting
5. **Items of Discussion**

New Business:

- 5A. Arbor Day Poster Contest
- 5B. Text Amendment Presentation
- 5C. Spring Clean-Up Discussion

6. City Council Updates
7. Other Items of Discussion
8. Adjourned

Item #4

MINUTES

Graham Appearance Commission Meeting

April 4, 2022

City Hall Council Chambers

In attendance:

Cheryl Ray, Judy Hall, Carmen Larrimore, Bonnie Whitaker, and Cameron West

- **Call Meeting to Order**
 - Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Moment of Silence
- **Appointment of Officers**
 - West explained that since the combination of the two boards has officially occurred, the board would need to appoint a new Chair and Vice-Chair Position
 - Carmen Larrimore was selected to become the Chair and Zipporah Clark-Baldwin was selected to become the Vice-Chair
 - Hall made the motion to approve the appointments and Ray seconded the motion.
- **Approval of Minutes from March 21, 2021**
 - Larrimore makes the motion to approve, seconded by Ray
- **Items of Discussion:**
 - New Business: Meeting Date Change
 - West noted the commission tasked him to establish a new meeting time.
 - After discussion between west and the commission, the consensus was the board would meet the 1st Monday of each month at 6 PM
 - Hall made the motion to approve the date change, Ray seconded
 - New Business: Arbor Day Poster Contest
 - West noted that with the new date change, the commission would be unable to participate in the voting in a formal meeting session unless a special called meeting occurred.
 - Board came to a consensus to call a special meeting on April 18th at 6 PM.
 - New Business: Text Amendment Presentation
 - The text amendment discussion was opened back up.
 - Without the inclusion of other voices from the board, Council liaison Whittaker noted it would be best to table the item.
 - Ray motioned to table the amendment presentation, Larrimore seconded
 - New Business: Spring Clean-Up Discussion
 - Discussion was held over what time and when the Clean-Up should occur
 - The commission suggested we attempt to collaborate with the recreation departments and any others that would be interested in participating.
 - West noted he would gather some more information and bring it back.

- New Business: Residential Appearance Award:
 - West presented updated dates for the Appearance Awards
 - The board raised questions about the business inclusion as well.
 - West noted the Business Appearance Award could work in tandem with each of the Residential time frames.
 - Ray made a motion to set the alternate times for the Residential and business Appearance Awards, Hall seconded
- **City Council Updates**
 - Council Member Whitaker attended the meeting and had no updates from Council. Whittaker requested the commission to seek members of the public to fill the vacancies on the board.
- **Other items of discussion**
 - Mr. Tim Covington went into detail about the downtown planters and the issues that arise with them. With a lack of funding, Mr. Covington sees it as a maintenance concern with no one that could take care of them. Mr. Covington was in favor of the idea. But saw that the timing was not in favor this time around.
- **Meeting Adjourned. Motion made by Ray, seconded by Hall at 7:07 PM**

Item #5B

City of Graham Code of Ordinance Proposals:

1. All owners are responsible to remove debris and grass clippings from sidewalks.
2. No person shall place or allow to remain to the elements, whether outdoors or within an enclosed porch or similar area, any chair, sofa, bed, table or similar furniture which is not designed and intended for outdoor use and which is thereby readily susceptible to deterioration.
3. Change Ordinance ...growth of grass, weeds or other noxious vegetation in excess of 18 inches high to 12 inches high.

Item #5C



Alamance County Litter Removal Call to Action

Background Facts:

- In 2021, 13 million pounds of litter was collected across the State of NC and over \$19 Million was spent on its pickup
- In 2021, over \$1.5 Million dollars were spent on collecting litter in areas that included Alamance County:

Division 7 (Alamance, Caswell, Guilford, Orange and Rockingham counties)	561,570 lbs collected in 2021	\$1,502,725.26 spent in cleanup costs during 2021
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Why should you care?

- Litter cleanup has a positive effect on businesses and the local economy. Not only is it unsightly, litter costs millions of public and private dollars to clean up and can have a negative impact on tourism and how people perceive the state while they travel.
- The presence of litter in a community decreases property values by 7%.
- Litter has environmental consequences. Wind and weather, traffic, and animals move litter into gutters, lawns and landscaped areas, alleyways, and parking structures. Litter near storm drains are likely to wash into local waterways, with potential for serious environmental contamination.
- Animals are innocent victims affected by litter every day. Researchers estimate that over one million animals die each year after ingesting, or becoming entrapped in, improperly discarded trash (in the US or worldwide?).
- Plastic litter is the most common killer of animals, and marine animals are the most notably affected. Each year over 100,000 dolphins, fish, whales, turtles, and more drown after becoming entangled in or digesting plastic litter.

What can you do?

- **PLAN an EVENT:** The 2022 Spring Litter Sweep is taking place April 16-30. Litter Sweep is the N.C. Department of Transportation's biannual statewide roadside litter removal initiative. Residents throughout the state participate in local efforts to help clean up North Carolina's roadways. In addition to volunteers, NCDOT maintenance crews devote one week of their time to pick up litter and collect orange bags placed on the roadsides by volunteer pickups. Volunteers are provided cleanup supplies, such as reversible orange/blue trash bags, gloves and orange safety vests, from their local NCDOT County Maintenance Yard office.
- **JOIN a GROUP:** New Leaf Society would like to encourage all Alamance County citizens, municipalities, businesses, and organizations to JOIN the Litter Sweep Alamance. The goals include demonstrating our community pride, care for the environment, stimulant healthy neighborhoods, accomplishing a common good for all, while creating new friendships. This call to action is to make way towards





reversing the trend of littering and help keep all of Alamance County clean and inspire others to spring into action.

- **SECURE your LOAD:** Approximately 16.4% of litter in America is caused by improperly covered trucks and cargo loads.
- **GET INVOLVED:** North Carolina Department of Transportation offers opportunities for the public to get involved: Adopt-A-Highway; Litter Sweep; Sponsor-A-Highway; and Swat-A-Litterbug. The detail can be found at ncdot.gov
- **ENCOURGE your CONSTITUENTS:** Declare a proclamation to encourage those in your municipality to make a conscious effort to keep their community clean and beautiful.

Litter Deterrents:

- Under [North Carolina's anti-littering law](#), individuals may be fined and face community service for intentionally and unintentionally littering.
- Intentional littering in the amount of 15 pounds or less is a Class 3 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$250 to \$1,000 and up to 24 hours of community service. Unintentional littering in the amount of 15 pounds or less is an infraction punishable by a fine of up to \$100 and up to 12 hours of community service.

For Litter Supplies, CALL to order and register your event:

[Alamance County Litter Sweep](#) – Elizabeth Bratton, Coordinator, (336) 570-6815

[City of Burlington](#) – Public Works Dept., (336) 222-5009

[NC DOT](#) – Program & Outreach Coordinator's Office, Litter Management, (919) 707-2974

Questions for New Leaf Society at info@newleafsociety.org

Kelly G. May, (336) 586-1626

Meaghan Widenhouse, (336) 586-1319

Janice Burgess, (336) 586-1181

New Leaf Society is a private, non-profit, volunteer-driven, organization focused on beautification and community partnerships in our communities. Partnerships are like the elements for growing a tree. You need the right soil, enough water, plenty of sunlight, good roots and the results can be a strong tree.

Sources:

https://kab.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/LitterinAmerica_FactSheet_LitterOverview.pdf

<https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/litter-management/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.texasdisposal.com/blog/the-real-cost-of-littering/>