

Town of River Bend
Community Appearance Commission
March 18, 2026 DRAFT Meeting Minutes
River Bend Municipal Building, 4:00 PM
51 Shoreline Drive, New Bern, NC 28562

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:10 PM.
2. Members present: Brenda Hall - Chairperson, Pat Lineback, Maryann Taylor, Jackie Herbster, Jon Hall, Steve Sarg. Guests present: Barbara Maurer, Lisa Benton
3. Motion to approve the January 21, 2026 CAC meeting minutes as amended was made by Jon Hall and approved by Jackie Herbster. Motion approved.
4. Discussion about new, ongoing, and annual projects, programs, events, and workshops for 2026:
 - a. Projects
 - i. CAC Sidewalk Gardens, Raised Bed Garden, and Veteran's Memorial Garden
 1. Sidewalk gardens will be evaluated on Saturday March 21, 2026 after the Arbor Day event.
 - ii. Festive Award and documentation review, updates, and revision
 1. Jackie reviewed the new streamlined form and suggested improvements.
 2. Brenda will ask Maryann to create a CAC logo.
 - iii. Assessment of all Christmas globes, repair, storage
 1. Jon continues to work on organization of the storage unit.
 - b. Programs
 - iv. Festive Award
 1. Fall Festive Award
 - a. No new discussion
 2. Christmas Festive Award
 - a. No new Discussion.
 - b. Events
 - i. Arbor Day
 1. Planning details for 2026 event partnering with EWAB
 - a. Saturday, March 21,2026 from 9 AM - 1 PM.
 - b. Bat house workshop prep reschedule for Friday, March 20,2026 at 1 PM at 105 Knotline Road.
 - c. Assignments - arrive at 8:15 AM
 - i. Reading of Arbor Day Tree City Proclamation - Brenda Hall
 - ii. Importance of bats discussion - Brenda Hall

- iii. Setup and cleanup - all members
 - iv. Parking - Steve Sarg
 - v. Bat house building - Jon Hall
 - vi. Photography - Maryann Taylor
 - ii. Christmas Festive Award Town Tours
 1. Date set for 12/18/2026 and municipal building is reserved.
 - iii. Fall Festive Award Town Tours
 1. Efforts continue in finding an appropriate vehicle for a hayride.
 2. Tentative date is October 30,2026.
 - c. Workshops
 - i. Crab Pot Christmas Globes/luminaries workshops are scheduled for 11/14/2026. Municipal building is reserved. Luminary workshop will follow.
 - d. Budget discussion
 - i. The request was to duplicate the same amount as last year.
5. Volunteer hours updates from CAC members are needed.
 6. Town update
 - a. Special meeting to discuss water update scheduled for water treatment plant on March 19, 2026. Town is at step number 14.
 - b. River Bend Country Club is willing to host the July 4th event but it must be voted in by the council.
 7. Open discussion
 - a. A town resident has requested that CAC address the Plantation Drive bridge which needs a facelift. .Lisa will discuss the issue with Delane.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jackie Herbster and seconded by Pat Lineback. The meeting was adjourned at 5:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Lineback

