

**Down East Council regular meeting; March 6, 2018 at the Williston UMC.**  
**There were 7 members and one guest present.**

**Meeting was called to order by Art Noyes at 7 PM.**

**The regular business of the group was held off for a presentation by our guest Dee Smith from the Carteret County Big Sweep. Our guest gave a presentation of her job as Coordinator of the Big Sweep Project in the County. She explained which items are collected and where to collect. The effort is all volunteer and they do cleanups all year. She will help organize cleanups and provide bags, gloves, buckets, gloves and etc. They ask that the groups doing cleanups keep track of the various items that are collected to further help the County informed of the need for more programs of this type. There is also programs for kids such as cleaning school yards and parks, where roads are not involved. She spoke about the problems with the legal system enforcing the litter laws and noted that there are not enough law enforcement officers to keep up and not enough time for minor offences such as littering. She offered any help with starting a cleanup program and handed out info on getting started.**

**The Secretary's reported and accepted with a change that Jorga Patten was not harassed as she was cleaning along her street.**

**The Treasurer's report was accepted as given.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Lillie gave a review of the Scenic By-way progress.**

**She reviewed the need for a program to solve the trash problem here Down East. We need a home based effort to keep the area clean. We should try to get litter program for the school age children. We can start with a few people in each community setting examples. We also need to search for more different approaches.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Lillie reported that she is trying to get space in the Compass Points section of the News-Times to announce articles from the Down East Council.**

**The Scenic By-way committee will have reports on upcoming happenings soon.**

**There is an effort to expand the community Christmas lighting displays in each area of Down East.**

**Susan Wilder reported on her efforts to have anti-litter signs made up on a volunteer effort. Sign boards and stakes have been made and now volunteer groups are being sought to paint the signs and have them put before April.**

**Jorga Patten reported on her efforts at cleaning the road sides and getting the proper info to the folks that work at the transfer stations.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.**

**The next meeting will be on April 3, 2018 at the Williston UMC.**