

**CITY OF BILOXI
TREE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes
July 09, 2018**

Members in attendance: Robin Rodolfich (1), Tracy Wyman (2), Matt Dubaz (3), Carroll Campbell (5), Bernie Marinovich (6),

Members not present: Geneva Dummer (4); Brian Lamar (7)

City Council Representation: None

Public Representation: Cheri Munter (3); Deanne Stephens (3)

I. Call to Order 4:00 p.m.

II. Reading and approval of June 2018 Minutes: June minutes were lost and must be recreated, for approval at a later time.

III. Welcome. Public at large guests were welcomed.

IV. Ongoing Business:

A. Current Issues & Code Violations

1) Windshield survey reports by Ward Representatives.

Please note that properties reported by a representative do not necessarily fall within their Ward.

All Ward reports were transferred to an Action Tracking Spreadsheet which will serve as the record and tracking document from this point forward. A conversation with City officials is needed to determine whether the document may or may not be made public, will be made available by request, or will serve as a working document only.

2) Other Issues of Concern.

a. Tree Committee review of residential requests for permitting removal of 1-4 trees. In a 6/5/2018 meeting with the City Arborist, it was reiterated that the Tree Committee should review all Tree Permits, even residential permits for 1-4 trees, as stipulated in the LDO.

b. Mitigation Status Report. No update of mitigation was provided by the City Arborist on the following properties: Hilton Garden; Hyatt Place; LaQuinta; Davis & Davis; possibly White House Hotel; Sawgrass; Circle K on Cedar Lake.

c. Penalties Report (Matt Dubaz reported that there is no public record of any fines ever being issued for tree ordinance infractions.

B. Public Meetings Reports

The information gained from all meetings reported on was transferred to the Action Tracking Spreadsheet.

C. Sites Reviewed: none.

V. Old Business

A. Tracy Wyman reported that City Arborist is reviewing with City IT whether *City Works* software can be purchased to serve as a means to efficiently track whether tree mitigation has occurred as well as the health of three over three years.

B. Tracy Wyman reported that the LDO revisions summary is in progress and will be ready for review by the LDO Revisions Committee during the month.

- C. Representation Updates: Carroll Campbell reported that City Council has voted to accept the new representation nominees, Brian Lamar (7) and Geneva Dummer (4).

VI. New Business

- A. Action Tracking Sheet & Responsibilities. Tracy Wyman developed a spreadsheet for Action Tracking of all tree issues. Members may use the digital version or pick up an updated hardcopy at GCCDS each month 2 days after the scheduled Tree Committee meeting. Members can use this to note concerns or updates throughout the month and should report all notes at the following regular Tree Committee meeting.
- B. Order of Public Comment on Agenda: Matt Dubaz proposed to move public comment to the beginning of the meeting, and that comments be limited to 3 min. After discussion, a motion was made to that affect by Tracy Wyman, and 2nd by Robin Rodolfich. Motion carried.
- C. Business Cards for Tree Committee Members. It was decided these would not be pursued.
- D. Windshield Survey: Tracy proposed a replacement to the windshield survey in the way of the Action Tracking Spreadsheet. It would be tried this month and the system revised as needed.
- E. Additional Resource Links on Website. Carroll proposed that we be thinking about additional links to include on the City webpage such as 'Keeping a Tree Healthy', 'Remediation for a Diseased Tree', 'Pruning Standards', etc.). ANSI standards for Tree Pruning cannot be published on the site due to copyright restrictions. The City Arborist is coming up with a suitable published alternative which aligns with the standards and would serve as education for citizens.
- F. Tracy Wyman proposed that we come up with a name for the group of Citizens wishing to assist the Tree Committee. After discussion, the group agreed to *Tree Champions*. Bernie Marinovich made a motion this name be adopted. Matt Dubaz 2nd the motion. Motion carried.
- G. Purchase and review of ANSI Pruning Standards. GCCDS will be purchasing the ANSI Standards for Tree Pruning. The Standards will be available for study by Tree Committee Members.
- H. Heritage Tree Stories: Matt Dubaz made a motion this topic be tabled until the revised LDO revisions are submitted to the City. Robin Rodolfich 2nd the motion.

VII. Public and Additional Comment: None

VIII. Meeting Adjournment: 5:30 p.m.