

**CITY OF BILOXI
TREE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Location: Gulf Coast Community Design Studio (769 Howard Avenue, Biloxi)
Time: 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

November 12, 2018

Members in attendance: Robin Rodolfich (1) Tracy Wyman (2), Geneva Dummer (4);
Carroll Campbell (5), Bernie Marinovich (6)

City Council Representation: None

Public Representation: None

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

II. Reading and approval of October 2018 Minutes: Due to time constraints, the October minutes will be distributed, read, and approved or revised via email.

III. Public Comment. None.

IV. Ongoing Business:

A. Action Tracking

- 1) Add: Tullis Manor at Oak Street North of Hwy 90. Site is full of Live Oaks and should be watched.
- 2) Add: Broadwater RV Park. Watch for property on DRC agenda.
- 3) Closed: Vista Fire Station/Water Tower. Storage issue beneath live oak has been resolved. Thank you to Billy Ray!
- 4) Add: The Savannahs. Watch for this on DRC agenda.
- 5) Closed: 3 locations in Ward 6 where trees were removed without permit. It was decided we should address this through broad education regarding the requirements for tree permits.

B. Site Visits, Recommendations & Correspondence

1) **PJ's on Pass Road**

Recommendations were delivered to the Mayor, Director of Community Development, Chief Administrative Officer, City Arborist and City Council and are attached to the minutes as Addendum 1.

2) **Nature's Trail Phase II**

A response to the mayoral decision of October 12, 2018 was submitted to inquire about decisions relating to off-site mitigation and our request for regrading to allow for protection of several trees. Attached to these minutes as Addendum 2.

3) **Biloxi RV Resort**

A letter of conflict regarding the decision of the planning commission to authorize a 1:1 mitigation ratio as opposed to the 3:1 ratio required by the LDO was sent to the Director of Community Development and is attached to these minutes as Addendum 3.

- 4) **Recommendations on City Website:** The Tree Committee has requested on 10/11/2018, 10/30/2018, and 11/7/2018 that Tree Review Recommendations for all properties be published on the City of Biloxi / Tree Committee web page under a category named 'Recommendations'. That has not yet been accomplished, and therefore the recommendations heretofore are attached to the respective meeting minutes.

C. PR / Communications. No update was received.

V. Current Business

A. LDO Recommendations

The Committee made minor corrections and approved the LDO Recommendations. Tracy will finalize the revisions before submission to Councilman Tisdale.

B. Mitigation Tracking Update (10 minutes)

The Committee has developed a draft of suggested mitigation sites. Robin suggested adding the median on Porter as a mitigation site. Bernie noted that it was reported in a DRC meeting that mitigation trees would be planted south of Hwy 90 from the Palace to the Golden Nugget. Bernie will confirm that statement is included in DRC minutes.

The Committee has learned of digital software which can help with mitigation tracking and is working to learn how we can support the City in these efforts.

C. Utilities Pruning Documentation Update. Photo documentation was obtained in August of utility pruning on Old Bay Road in Ward 5. Round 2 of photo documentation is due to occur in November.

VI. Meeting Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Andrew Gilich
Jerry Creel, Director of Community Development
Eric Nolan, Arborist
Mike Leonard, CAO
Biloxi City Council Members

From: City of Biloxi Tree Committee
Carroll Campbell, Chair (5)
James "Bernie" Marinovich, Vice-Chair (6)
Tracy Wyman, Secretary (3)
Matt Dubaz (2)
Robin Rodolfich (1)
Geneva Dummer (4)
Brian Lamar (7)

Date: October 30, 2018

Re: Recommendations for PJ's, 2685 Pass Rd.

The Tree Committee has reviewed the site plan and tree inventory provided in the Tree Permit Application for a new PJ's Coffee Shop at 2685 Pass Rd. in Biloxi. The developer proposes to remove a total of seven protected trees, including six healthy, well-established live oaks and one magnolia. The Tree Committee recommends the following:

1. The site plan in this tree permit application is incomplete. There are two large magnolias in the south east corner of the lot that are not shown on the current site plan. The developer must provide a revised site plan showing these trees and indicating whether they are to be retained or removed. If they are to be removed, mitigation is required.
2. The magnolia designated for removal at the north west of the site should be considered for retention. We suggest removing one parking space and narrowing the driveway sufficiently to allow for its retention, even if a variance and additional marking/stripping is needed for the narrower drive.
3. On-site mitigation planting can be accomplished around the detention pond, and should be done at a ratio of 3:1. Plantings should consist of native species, to include live oaks, southern magnolias and bald cypress, as well as an assortment of native understory trees such as is provided on the attached *Recommended Mitigation Species* list, attached.
4. If it can be considered at this point in the process, we would strongly suggest retaining the six live oaks at the rear (south) of the property. Retaining these healthy oaks is in the public interest, as it would beautify the property and also provide shade for the building, customers, and workers. Doing so would set a meaningful precedent for development in the City of Biloxi.

Carroll Campbell
347 Big Lake Rd.
Biloxi, MS 39531

October 23, 2018

Mayor Andrew M. Gilich
City of Biloxi
140 Lameuse St.
Biloxi, MS 39530

RE: Decision of October 12, 2018 regarding Letter of Conflict, Nature's Trails Phase 2 Tree Permit Application

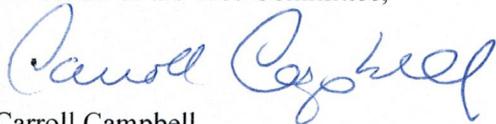
Dear Mr. Gilich,

Thank you for taking into consideration the Tree Committee's recommendations for Nature' Trail Phase 2 Subdivision. As per your final approval of October 12, 2018, we understand the Developer will mitigate for the removal of 78 protected trees with 78 thirty-gallon nursery-grade live oak trees at a mitigation rate of 1:1, with mitigation to occur both on and off-site. We are still waiting to hear from the City Arborist regarding a proposal for off-site mitigation. Once the proposal is ready, we will forward it to you. Attached please find our recommendation for off-site locations for mitigation to occur, to be confirmed by the City Arborist.

There is a specific issue we would like information on. Your letter did not speak to the Tree Committee's recommendation to request a revised grading plan of the Developer in order to protect the 36" and 32" DBH live oaks near Station 6+00, and the 52" DBH live oak near Station 1+00. Please confirm whether you will authorize and require protection of these trees.

As with all tree permit requests, the Tree Committee would like to stay informed as to the tree protection and tree mitigation for this site.

On behalf of the Tree Committee,



Carroll Campbell
Chair, Biloxi Tree Committee

ADDENDUM 3

Carroll Campbell on behalf of
City of Biloxi Tree Committee
347 Big Lake Rd.
Biloxi, MS 39531

October 26, 2018

Mr. Jerry Creel
City of Biloxi Community Development
676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.
Biloxi, MS 39530

Re: Letter of Conflict, Tree Permit for Biloxi Beach RV Resort

Dear Mr. Creel,

I am writing on behalf of the Biloxi Tree Committee to let you know of our disagreement in the Biloxi Beach RV Resort tree permit, granted October 18, 2018. We are formally reporting this disagreement to you, for forwarding to the mayor.

It is our understanding that mitigation for the removed trees has been approved at a ratio of 1:1. However, City code has been established in the best interest of the public, and it requires mitigation at a ratio of 3:1. Therefore, the Tree Committee asks the Mayor to strongly consider abiding by the established Land Development Ordinance as a minimum standard, and to require mitigation to occur at a rate of 3:1, whether on or off-site. There are many properties that could benefit from the mitigation of trees lost on this site, which would become not only an asset to our City but would help citizens recognize the efforts the City is taking to ensure a healthy tree canopy for years to come.

Following Biloxi's ordinance requirement of mitigation at a ratio of 3:1 will promote public trust in the City regarding tree protection.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this Letter of Conflict.

Yours truly,

/s/ Carroll Campbell
Chair, Biloxi Tree Committee

LDO References:

1. 23-6-4(G)(4), Replacement/Mitigation of Specimen Trees.
2. 23-2-4(I)(3)(c)(3)

Attached:

Suggested Native Trees for replanting/mitigation
Biloxi Beach RV Resort site plan and related documents

Cc: Ed Shambra
Eric Nolan
James Marinovich
Tracy Wyman
Robin Galle Rodolfich

Matthew Dubaz
Brian Lamar
Geneva Dummer
Caryle Lena
Felicia Serpas