

**CITY OF BILOXI  
TREE COMMITTEE MEETING**

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

---

**MINUTES**

**December 10, 2018**

---

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

City Council Representation:

Guest Speaker: Dr. Paul Tisdale

Public Representation: Marques Thomas (United Majestic Oaks LLC)

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

**II. November 2018 Minutes.** Due to time constraints, the November minutes will be distributed, read, and approved or revised via email.

**III. Guest Speaker + Discussion (20 min)**

Marques Thomas COO United Majestic Oaks LLC

TOPIC: Tree Considerations from the Developer & Land Owner's Perspective

Thomas is the developer of the property next to the old Broadwater Hotel. The proposed development will include 250 RV sites plus villas and additional amenities. The company's similar projects include [Reunion Lake Luxury RV Campground](#).

Helpful to note is that properties such as this are purchased and a preliminary design developed based on aerial images, GIS topographic maps, and in accordance with Federal laws (i.e., wetlands mitigation requirements), but many times without the owner, developer or designer ever walking the site to acknowledge constraints due to local tree ordinances.

These important recreation developments are generally based on economic impact alone, with a tropical aesthetic utilizing palms and understory trees such as crepe myrtles, and not necessarily reflecting a sense of the place in which it's being created.

**IV. Ongoing Business:**

**A. Action Tracking:**

The Committee agreed to review the Action Tracking Form and submit updates/additions via email by Friday, December 14, 2018.

**B. Site Visits:**

The Savannahs – Phase II

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

**C. PR / Communications Update:**

No public relations report was received.

**V. Current Business**

**A. Mitigation Tracking Update (10 minutes)**

It was agreed the Committee would try and get a meeting with the City Arborist and Director of Community Development to plan for mitigation tracking.

**B. Utilities Pruning Documentation Update (Carroll Campbell, 2 minutes)**

No utilities pruning report was received.

**VI. Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

**MEMORANDUM**

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

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: December 4, 2018

**Re: Tree Committee Recommendations for Tree Permit in The Savannahs – Phase II**

The Tree Committee has conducted a site visit to the Savannahs, Phase II site together with the City Arborist. The Developer proposes to remove a total of 32 protected trees in order to construct two roadways. We have the following recommendations in this Tree Permit application:

1. Savanna Court proposed cul-de-sac:
  - a. The Tree Committee request the Planning Commission consider whether it might be possible to remove the cul-de-sac design in order to retain trees numbered 1, 2, 3 (#3 is actually a cluster of pine and gum). This is requested because there is also a turnabout available via the proposed parking area.
2. Savannah Court proposed parking area:
  - a. Tree Committee recommends retaining the trees numbered 8, 9, 10, 11 (includes 3 live oaks and a pine).
  - b. Tree Committee accepts the proposed removal of trees numbered 4, 5, 6, 7, 12.
3. Savannah Lane:
  - a. TC recommends narrowing the road to 20’ to allow for retention of trees numbered 13, 14, 16, 17, 18.
  - b. TC accepts the proposed removal of trees numbered 15, and 20 through 33.
4. Mitigation:

The Developer is required by Ordinance to perform mitigation for all trees removed, with the exception of the pines, at a ratio of 3:1. Plantings must include live oaks, magnolias and bald cypresses. The Tree Committee has compiled a list of native species, attached, which may also comprise some portion of the mitigation trees.