

CITY OF BILOXI

TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

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

MINUTES

DECEMBER 9, 2019

I. Call to Order 4:10 p.m.

Members present: Tracy Wyman (2), Geneva Dummer (4); Carroll Camfffdasdfpbell (5); Beau Blalock (6);

No members of the public at large were present.

II. Minutes for November 2019 were reviewed by all Committee members via email, and approved by all.

III. Ongoing Business

A. Action Tracking

- Updates:

1) Robertson & Azalea, WATCH. City plans to remove fill and curb around one protected live oak which was deposited/installed during the infrastructure project and which is both jeopardizing the health of the tree and causing traffic flow issues. The City is considering significant root pruning to prevent road damage as well as widening modifying the intersection to allow for normal two-way traffic flow.

2) Big Play Amusement Park, ACTION. Developer has submitted revised plan to DRC which preserves protected trees. A site visit is to be scheduled.

3) Pedestrian Overpass on Hwy 90 at WW2 Monument. CLOSED

- New Items:

1) People's Plaza Retail Strip, WATCH. This project was presented to DRC with plans to save most trees. 2) Pringle Avenue Self-Storage, WATCH. The plan is said to remove only unprotected trees, while preserving protected trees.

2) Eagle Point. Trees were cut for a subdivision, no TC oversight occurred. CA has agreed to investigate. Follow-up required. (Carroll)

B. Site Visits & Recommendations (5 minutes)

- Bertucci. Updated plan with tree inventory was presented to DRC 11/13/2019. Schedule site visit (Carroll)

- Woolmarket Community Center. Schedule site visit. (Carroll)

- People's Plaza Retail Strip Schedule site visit. (Carroll)

- Pringle Avenue Self-Storage. Schedule site visit. (Carroll)

- Beach Vista Apartments, 133 Briarfield Avenue. Schedule site visit. (Carroll)

- Big Play Amusement Park. Schedule site visit. (Carroll)

C. PR / Communications

- Chairperson Report: Robin Rodolfich (not present)

- Carroll will meet with Robin to before next meeting to discuss possibilities.

- New idea: Tree Committee Sustainable Development Award to be presented for an exemplary project annually. TC will discuss this possibility with City.
- Outstanding items to be discussed with City include:
 - 1) Encourage developers to use the MDEQ Stormwater Point System which incentivizes tree planting for stormwater drainage.
 - 2) Encourage developers to consider the *Sustainable Design* principles outlined in the Biloxi LDO.
 - 3) Gary Bachman articles for publication or video.

D. Majestic Tree Program

- Chairperson Report: Geneva Dummer
- Research on BSL program is complete.
- Draft of proposed plan for the Biloxi program is still in process. To be presented at January meeting.

E. City Beautification Program

- Chairperson Report: Tracy Wyman
- Research on similar programs is complete.
- Presented map of Biloxi Wards to the Committee. Committee members who were present identified potential sites for beautification, highlighting key entrance points and medians. This work will continue throughout December and again at the January meeting.
- A compiled report will be prepared for the City and the first draft presented to the Committee at the January meeting.

F. Permit Tracking

- Chairperson Report: Beau Blalock
Beau has tracked all tree permits which the TC has been advised of on a spreadsheet from August 2019 to present.

VI. Current Business

- A. Ward 7 Representative has been appointed: Pam Barlow. She has been contacted by the Tree Committee and will begin participation in January 2020.
- B. Mitigation Tracking – A meeting with the CA and Director of Community Development will be scheduled in January to address outstanding mitigation requirements.
It is possible that Popp's Ferry Elementary needs to be added. TC will pursue getting List of Mitigation Locations onto City website (Tracy)
- C. TC has reviewed the CA draft verbiage; TC response is in process (Tracy). This will be delivered to CA and Director of Community Development in January.
- D. Beau Blalock is Committee Member Needed: responsible to log permits & mitigation requirements.
- E. Inquire with the City regarding plans for Barhonivich Park (Circle Park); (Carroll)

VII. Meeting Adjourned: Estimated at 5:10 p.m.