

CITY OF BILOXI

TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

Time / Location: 2nd Monday of each month; 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Community Development Building, Location TBD
676 Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Biloxi, MS 39530

MINUTES

MAY 09, 2022

I. The meeting was called to Order at 3:40 p.m.

Members present: Tracy Wyman (ex officio member Chair); Pam Barlow (7);
Carroll Campbell (6)

II. Public Comment: None.

III. April 2022 minutes were approved as presented.

V. Ongoing Business

A. Action Tracking:

- No projects were added this period.
- The following properties were moved to “closed” or “mitigation tracking” this period:
 - Irish Hill Sapplings. These are not maintained by the City.
 - Simon Property. As per CA, this project is not happening.
 - Bellowood Phase 2. As per CA, this project is not happening.
 - Pot-O-Gold. As per CA, this project requires elevation and stalled for now.
 - Legend’s Parking Lot Expansion. Proper protection has occurred.

B. Site Visits & Recommendations

- There following site visits and recommendations to the Planning Commission occurred during this period:
 - College Cove (Eula Phase 2) will be heard before the Planning Commission on May 19, 2022. The Tree Committee scheduled a site visit and will prepare recommendations.

D. Committee Reports

- PR / Communications (Carroll Campbell and Robin Lang) – Tracy reached out to Cecilia Dobbs-Walton to inquire about possible outreach and education platforms. Cecilia will publish our articles in B-Mail and the Biloxi News as space allows, which will be after the June hurricane issue. Facebook outreach opportunities will be much less frequent and should be short and relevant. She is looking forward to an article from us relevant to hurricane season, and having a ‘bank’ of stories that she can publish as room allows will be helpful.
- Majestic Tree Program – (Tracy).
Christine shared the Majestic Tree Program Step-By-Step Guide with City Council on May 3. The members who saw the presentation said she did a great job. This is just a start. There was confusion about the process and the City

Arborist was not present. In the future, we will get specific Tree Designations listed on the agenda for the Council to vote on. Tracy will clarify the process with the CA, and get the process uploaded to the web page.

- City Beautification Program (Tracy Wyman) – Tracy has inquired with the City about this document, and has not received a response.
- The following members attended DRC and/or Planning Commission meetings this period, on behalf of the Committee: Matt Dubaz, Shirley Robinson, and Robin Lang. Thank you!!

VI. Outstanding Issues

- A. Oaklawn Recommendation. Carroll provided video captures by the McKinney's. The drive-by footage shows the site cleared soon after the trees were felled. Tracy will try and move this forward with the City Arborist, Director of Community Development to be heard before Community Court.
- B. Allenwood Drive, insufficient tree permit process—Tracy will inquire with CA.

VII. Current Business

- A. Tracy will reach out to the Community Court judge, Judge Harenski, to see if he would speak at an upcoming meeting.
- B. Since we missed the opportunity to be involved with Arbor Day this year (Feb 2022), we will try and find an opportunity for involvement at Earth Day. Carroll Campell will contact Sherri Bell (Parks & Rec) to see about potential opportunities.
- C. Pam Barlow has been updating the Tree Permits for near one year now, as per the emails received from Eric. The Committee believes this is an important task for everyone on the committee to share in. We are looking for a member to take over this task for approximately 6 months. It requires a computer, and can be learned by anyone.
- D. Carroll suggested reestablishing the practice of inviting a Council member to our regular meetings. We'll discuss how to incorporate this at our next meeting, but if anyone would like to volunteer to invite their council person to the May or June meeting it would be great. Please coordinate with Tracy since we're also inviting Judge Harenski, and we don't want to double up.
- E. Mitigation has been occurring at St. Mary's Park. Tracy will inquire with the City Arborist as to whether irrigation is provided for the establishment period, and she will add this location to our list of approved Mitigation Locations.
- F. It is past time for the Tree Committee to give a report to City Council. Tracy will get the data from the City Arborist and reconcile that report with our records. Tracy will compile the overall report. Carroll will prepare the narrative, building on the established framework.
- G. Mitigation Tracking requires a status report on several properties. Tracy will meet with Eric this month to assure we have updates on every property, and to assess the likelihood of the mitigation tracking meeting the new provisions of the LDO (i.e., GPS coordinates, species, date of planting, tracking for 3 years, etc.)

VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 4:25 p.m.