

# CITY OF BILOXI

## TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Time / Location:** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

AUGUST 8, 2022

---

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

Members present: Tracy Wyman (ex officio member Chair) via phone; Shirley Robinson (2); Susan Peterson (4); Pam Barlow (7)

II. Public Comment: None.

III. May 2022 minutes were approved via email.

V. Ongoing Business

A. Action Tracking:

- No properties were added this period.
- The following properties were moved to “closed” this period from “Mitigation Tracking”. These projects were all duplicates, or incorrectly being tracked:
  - Woody’s Roadside (tracked in error)
  - Lafayette Trees Damaged in 2020 Storm (CA was not able to get the consultant to submit a definitive report for these damages, which were allegedly due to faulty construction practices.
  - Holiday Inn @ Hwy 90 and Rodenberg (Project halted, no revised site plan)
  - Ocean Club Villas (permit for removals was never issued, trees not removed)
  - Toxey Gerald Collins (CA states that only water oaks were removed)
- Two properties were moved to “mitigation tracking” this period:
  - Eula Cove Phase 2 (Quantity unknown)
  - Southern Magnolia (Quantity unknown)

B. Site Visits & Recommendations:

The following site visits and recommendations to the Planning Commission occurred during this period:

- Southern Magnolia Subdivision, proposal for removal of 15 protected trees to build a 52-lot SFR subdivision. No Tree Committee Members attended the Planning Commission meeting, and there has been no communication from the City Arborist as to quantities approved for removal.

C. Committee Reports

- PR / Communications (Tracy Wyman) – An article was published in the July issue, “*Are Your Trees Ready for Hurricane Season*”. Thanks to Christine Davis for the background information and topic suggestion, and Tracy Wyman for drafting the article.

Future articles will introduce Tree Committee Members, explain recent LDO changes, highlight various live oak species and more. Tracy is working on some short articles to contribute as well, as per the suggestion of Biloxi’s PR Department.

- Majestic Tree Program – (Tracy).  
Christine will reach out to the City Council clerk to get the first to proposals for majestic trees on the agenda. These include *The Healing Tree* (Wyman), and *The Danny Guice Oak*.
- City Beautification Program (Tracy Wyman) – Tracy has twice more inquired with the City about this document, and has not received a response.
- No Tree Committee Members attended DRC Meeting this period.

#### VII. Outstanding Business

##### A. Eagle Point Clearcutting (2019)

The City Arborist reports as of 7/2022, that “If someone would swear out charges at the Police Department against the individual that did the removals, they can proceed with charges.” Since he did not witness the removals and does not know who did them, “he would not be able to swear out the charges. Houses are currently being built on the lots.”

#### VIII. Current Business

- Tracy will reached out to the Community Court judge, Judge Harenski, who did not return the calls. The Committee will assume he will not be available to present and an upcoming meeting.
- Pam Barlow continues to update the Tree Permits. Additional members willing to help with this task should come forward.
- Ward 5 member, Carroll Campbell has stepped down from the Committee. Tracy will reach out to the Mayor and Ward 5 Councilperson Paul Tisdale regarding a replacement. Carroll has served on the Committee since it’s founding in 2016, and will be greatly missed.
- Pam Barlow will invite Ward 7 Councilperson to our September meeting, and will work to try and secure a location for the meeting within Ward 7. The hope is this will prompt participation from Ward 7 residents.
- 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.
- The City Arborist has now provided the needed data in order for us to complete our March 2022 report to City Council. The information will take considerable time to integrate into the existing data. Once that is complete, the report will go to the Committee and the Director of Community Development for review. Once approved, it will be scheduled with the City Council agenda.
- Tracy has been working since April (without success) to get a meeting with the City Arborist and Director of Community Development regarding:

- Mitigation Process
- Majestic Tree verbiage and process
- City Beautification Plan
- A few minor changes to the LDO
- Community Court Process

VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 4:20 p.m.