

CITY OF BILOXI TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

Time / Location: Community Development Conference Room
3:30 – 4:30 pm

MINUTES

DECEMBER 12, 2022

I. The meeting was called to Order at 3:35 p.m.

Members present: Tracy Wyman (ex officio member Chair); Susan Peterson via phone (4);
Wendy Lally (5); Pam Barlow (7)

II. Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

III. November 2022 minutes were read and approved as presented.

IV. Ongoing Business

A. Action Tracking:

- No projects were added this period.
- No projects were moved to “closed” this period.

B. Site Visits & Recommendations

- Reef Express Convenience Store and Gas Station.
The Committee visited the site recommended the Planning Commission deny this application and request a redesign for another use (such as a restaurant) which could utilize the existing mature and beautiful landscape. The final determination was to deny the proposed project.

The full Recommendations prepared by the Tree Committee are available on the Tree Committee website.

- Frank Zhang Apartment Complex, 133 Briarfield Avenue.
The Committee visited the site and will make recommendations that the project be tabled due to an insufficient site plan and tree survey. The case will be heard on 12/15/22.

C. Committee Reports

- PR / Communications – A short article was published this period entitled “*Have a HOLLY JOLLY Holiday*” covering native holly trees and wishing the community a happy holiday. A January article will be submitted on the Majestic Tree Program.
- Majestic Tree Program – Tracy will follow-up with Cary Lena regarding the resolution for majestic trees to be placed on the agenda January 3. It is anticipated this will be ready before the proposed January 3 presentation of the first 2 trees. Tracy will send the links to Cecelia to be uploaded to the Tree Committee web page.
- City Beautification Program (Tracy Wyman) – Tracy has inquired with the City multiple times since March about this document, and has not received a response.

- Permit Report: Pam reported that all permit applications have been added to the spreadsheet for tracking, and that the number is significantly lower than normal (only 5 for all of October and November and including those that went before Planning Commission), indicating that all applications are not being sent to us, likely due to the vacancy for the position of City Arborist.

VI. Outstanding Issues

Reporting. Tracy will bring the draft report to Jerry Creel in person, for approval.

VII. Current Business

- A. Mitigation Tracking. There has been no change to mitigation tracking this period, or improvements to the coordination of such with the City.
- B. The vacancy for Ward 5 representative has been filled by Wendy Lally. Welcome Wendy!
- C. Tree Committee Members not able to participate in regular meetings, or contribute in a meaningful way on a regular basis will be asked to step down and help fill those positions with someone with the time and capacity to serve.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 4:35 p.m.