

CITY OF BILOXI TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

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

MINUTES

APRIL 10, 2023

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

Members present: Tracy Wyman (ex officio member Chair); Shirley Robinson (2); Susan Peterson (4); Wendy Lally (5)

City Council or Staff present: Zack Harris, City Arborist
- II. Public Comment: No members of the public were present.
- III. March 2023 minutes were read, and approved with minor revisions.
- IV. City Arborist Comments.
 - A. CA reported on the outcome of the MGCCC Access Road Tree Hearing, and explained he is working through the details of determining the mitigation requirements for this project and the plan for the City to mitigate from the Mitigation Trust.
 - B. CA reported that he has been following up on Mitigation for past projects, and found that Popp's Ferry Storage had planted the 267 mitigation trees, but at insufficient spacing to ensure survival. The outcome of that finding is unknown to date.
- C. Ongoing Business
 - A. Action Tracking:
 - No projects were added this period.
 - No projects were moved to "closed" this period.
 - One project was added to Mitigation Tracking
 - MGCCC Access Road; 21 Trees approved for removal; 42 Trees must be replanted. Developer has elected to pay into the mitigation trust for the replanting. The City has not yet determined the location for the replantings.
 - B. Site Visits & Recommendations
2023_TR-23-002_MGCCC Access Road. The Tree Committee visited this site with the City Arborist and submitted recommendations to the Planning Commission. Wendy Lally attended the Planning Commission meeting on behalf of the Tree Committee and read our recommendations verbatim, as the Land Development Ordinance requires. Wendy also reported that the Commission appreciated having a copy of the recommendations ahead of the meeting, and that we may want to consider not using confusing language such as "alternative recommendation" in the language.

Based on that report, future recommendations will reflect that advise.

As always, the full Recommendations are available on the Tree Committee web page.

C. Committee Reports

- PR / Communications – Tracy will prepare an article *“The Communities Role in Public Meetings: Your Opportunity to be Heard”*.
- Majestic Tree Program – No progress has been made on getting this on the Agenda. Tracy will reach out again with this request.
- City Beautification Program – No report.
- Permits: Past permits (August – February) need to be added to our tracking spreadsheet. Tracy and Wendy Lally will work on this.
- DRC Report: Shirley has been attending DRC meetings. There are no projects with tree issues at this time. Tracy passed out “Remember the Trees Please” brochures which help serve as a guide in these meetings.

VI. Outstanding Issues

There has been no progress in getting the draft report to the Director of Community Development. Tracy will get the draft to the committee.

VII. Current Business

- A. Ward 3 and Ward 7 Vacancies. These positions remain open. Tracy will reach out to the Mayor’s office and appropriate Council Members once again

VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 4:55 p.m.