

## **Tree Committee Meeting**

**Location:** Community Development Conference Room

**Minutes**

**July 1, 2026**

**I.** The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM.

Members present: Debra Carr (1), Jeremy Herring (7), Pamela Manners (5), Susan Peterson (4), Jamie Tamburo (2).

Excused: Doug Deluca (6).

City Council or Staff present: Mr. Jerry Creel, Director of Community Development, Brad Manus, City contracted arborist.

**II. Minutes:** June 3, 2026 minutes were approved.

**III. Public Comment:** Before the Public Comment Susan Peterson welcomed the guests for attending and reminded them to sign-in. This sign-in sheet will be attached to the July minutes. She reminded the public that there is only 10 minutes for public comment and that the comments should only have to do with "trees."

There was no public comment.

**IV. Ongoing Business:**

Updates / Arborist Report:

A. Mr. Creel let us know the City of Biloxi still is actively looking for a City Arborist and the job is still posted on the City web site. He presented the List of Trees removed. There were only 14 trees and each Tree Committee member received a copy. No healthy protected trees were removed. All trees have been documented with photos. If there were any questionable trees he would have contacted Brad Manus, City contracted arborist. Two of the trees are owned by the City. The List of Trees will be attached to the July 2026 minutes.

He also made an announcement about Chick fil A. It should be completed in sixteen weeks?

Site Visits and Recommendations: There were none.

B. Committee Reports:

- DRC Attendance: Susan Peterson and Pamela Manners attended the DRC meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Susan Peterson attended the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and July 1<sup>st</sup>. No one attended the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting as there were no trees involved. Pamela Manners attended the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Pamela Manners stated that one of the projects will be resubmitted as they have changed their original plans from removing less than five trees. We will wait for a new tree survey and landscape plan for this project. Susan Peterson attended the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and two of the projects need tree surveys and landscape plans.
- PRC / Communications: An article was written by Susan Peterson for the July BNews on the City of Biloxi Proclamation presented by the Mayor on at the City Council meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup> for Tree City USA for our 42<sup>nd</sup> year as a Tree City.
- COB Majestic Tree Applications: An application was forwarded to all the Tree Committee members for Dan Hill's Majestic City of Biloxi Tree application for his live oak on 1950 Brasher Rd. A motion was made after discussion to accept this tree as a City of Biloxi Majestic Tree. It was seconded and voted on unanimously by the tree committee members present.
- Majestic Tree Program: None.

#### **V. Current Business:**

- Tree Committee Member Comments: None
- Chairperson / Secretary Comments: Susan Peterson made a motion to have the City of Biloxi Majestic Trees listed on our City of Biloxi tree web site by address and the list updated as they are approved by the City Council. A discussion was held; motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the Tree Committee members present.
- Reports to the City: None

#### **VI. Old Business / New Business:**

- A. We discussed Mitigation funds at our last Tree Committee meeting and were all asked to see where we would be able to place some mitigation trees with the help of our contracted arborist. Debra Carr discussed the Mitigation Funds she would like used for the Sherman Canaan Port Park on Bayview Avenue. She asked us all to check out the property as there are no trees there presently before the next Tree Committee meeting. There is water to support new trees. She will have a motion ready for the Mitigation Funds discussion at the next Tree Committee Meeting.

- B. Susan Peterson made a motion to add three more live oak trees from the Mitigation Fund to the Poppo's Ferry Dog Park. There is already water available and the trees planted earlier are thriving and Parks and Rec have done a great job taking care of them. These trees would be planted with the assistance of the City contracted arborist. Parks and Rec would plant them and make sure they are watered. The motion was discussed, seconded and voted on unanimously by the Tree Committee members present. This recommendation will be added to our two other recommendations and forwarded when we have all the Mitigation Fund tree requests.
- C. Mr. Creel discussed the MS State Restore Act Grant meeting held earlier today that he attended. This grant will make available up to or more than \$40,000 for tree planting in Biloxi. They will plant the trees, take care of the trees for a year and then donate them to the City of Biloxi to enhance our Tree Canopy. The Tree Committee is tasked with finding areas in their Wards. The deadline for these recommendations is in 30 days as the MS State Forestry Commission needs to have their requests in for this grant money as early as possible.

**VII. Meeting Adjournment: 3:59 PM.**

| Owner        | Permit Number | Address            | Trees removed/t | Diameter  | Contractor                 | Date issued |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------------|
| COB          | 202600997     | Penzoil Park       | remove 1 Oak    | 12"       | Wrights Tree Service       | 6/1/2026    |
| COB          | 202600997     | 385 Churchhill Ave | 1 Oak           | 12"       | Wrights Tree Service       | 6/1/2026    |
| Lynne Olson  | 202601081     | 236 Dewey Cir      | 2 Oaks          | 28" & 32" | Southern Tree Surgery, LLC | 6/11/2026   |
| Eugene Breza | 202601166     | 143 Iberville Dr   | 1 Oak           | 6'        | Owner                      | 6/25/2026   |
| Kurt Higgins | 20260169      | 231 Rue Petit Bois | 1 Oak           |           | Southern Tree Surgery, LLC | 6/26/2026   |

City of Biloxi

Tree Committee Meeting

Date July 1, 2026

**Guest Sign-In**

(Please print and you may provide an email?)

Wendy Lally (Wendy Lally) 228-596-1883

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