



**MINUTES
CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH
TREE AND LANDSCAPE BOARD REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025 -- 6:03 PM**

ROLL CALL AND RECORDING OF ABSENCES

Present were: Diane Brown, Ginny Powell, Priscilla Hallowell, Donna Kerner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/REORDERING AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES None

Mention of homes without trees and where to report. Staff mentions this is a Code Compliance issue to be reported directly to Code Compliance. Enforcement of Code should be to the Code Compliance Division.

Board members mention violations were reported to D. McGrew. They no longer have anonymous reporting available.

Members are not aware of the Code Compliance Division and how to report tree abuse concerns. **Response:** Code Compliance Division information is available on the website. The General Code Compliance number is where it should be reported. Board members question how to get emergency service when trees are actively being cut down. Can it be reported to PBSO? **Response:** Those concerns should also be directed to the Code Compliance Division. Questions about whether City owned trees being cut down should also be directed to Code. **Response:** Those would be addressed via Code Compliance to Public Works Department. Code is reactionary, not emergency service. Board members inquire as to the duties of Scott Ropp and Mina Tawadros, are they part of Code Compliance? **Response:** No, they are City Public Works employees. Board members can look up cases online. Complaints about unhelpfulness/unwelcomeness of Code staff as relates to information on any given case. **Response:** Code staff members do not initiate cases, Code officers then go out to the field to determine if there is a case and open one if necessary. Discussion of hat-racking and putting information out regarding penalties for such. Will the post office do it or can members put it in mailboxes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3-MINUTE LIMIT) Also present were Giovanna Dominguez and NEST members.

Reports of artificial turf being installed. Commissioners have not made any decisions. The first reading failed so it will go back to workshop. Question about getting it back on the agenda.

Response: It's up to the Commission when they want to set the workshop. Board members want to put it on the workshop agenda and were not aware that Commission sets their own agenda. **Response:** It has to pass twice. It must be reworked and will begin again. To date no new direction has been given to staff.

Board: The public cannot comment at a Workshop. **Response:** Correct.

REPORTS: ADVISOR, CHAIR, COMMITTEE(S), AND BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

A letter from the Mayor thanking Paul and Marta Harding for their assistance with the first tree planting.

Any updates of applicants for the Landscape position? **Response:** Nothing yet.

Staff: Community Greening has reached out regarding a second tree planting in Howard Park. They are targeting underprivileged areas. Leisure Services would head up plantings in any City owned park property. The Tree Board could potentially partner with Leisure Services.

Discussion of maintaining the city planters and an "Adopt a Planter".

NEST: New maps and site plans for plantings. Shade tree planting in Bryant Park is progressing.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Bryant Park shade tree plantings – discussion of 12/16 planting and future plantings
- B. Discussion of public outreach projects

ADJOURNMENT