

The City of Lake Worth Tree Board
City Hall Conference Room
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2022

Call to order: 6:10

Members Present: D. Kerner, G. Powell and D. Brown

Due to the lack of having a quorum present the regular meeting was converted to a Work Shop.

Members Absent: A. Gottlieb and R. Stowe-Resigned

Agenda additions, deletions, reordering: None

Public Attendance :

Resident Susan Guyaux reported that 6 trees are being severely over pruned to the point of endangerment. They are located in the parking lot by the shoe store on Lucerne Ave where the Cottage mural is being painted. The Advisor D. McGrew will inspect the trees and code enforcement send a notice if a violation exists.

S. Guyaux suggested that the Board should work towards getting code changed to make landscapers responsible for violations instead of homeowners. An applicant to the tree board mentioned another county in South Florida (Broward) that requires tree pruning contractors and tree workers to receive training on proper training. Advisor D. McGrew told the Board that he would check with the Legal Department to see if the City would be able to mirror the Broward County ordinance, Article XIV.- Tree Preservation and Abuse Ordinance Powell stated that the training and certification could be conducted through the Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension service The Board requests an answer by our next Board meeting.

b) Susan is very upset that the City's landscape contractor, Marquez Landscaping is once again severely pruning everything in sight. Ginny spoke with Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, Scott Ropp about it and learned that it was he who told Marquez to cut everything back. This is because someone who had a car accident is suing the City because the landscaping was too tall and their line of sight was obscured. Ginny is afraid that this will be used as a pretext to hack everything down.

Approval of minutes: - February 10, 2022, February 23, 2022 Work Shop, March 10, 2022, April 14, 2022 and May 12, 2022

Tabled to future meeting due to lack of quorum

Reports: None

New Business: None

Old Business

A. Beach Dune update

G. Powell will do leg work on getting permit or permit exemption for invasive plant removal. Ginny thinks it is better to develop removal plan from now until November when hurricane season is over and then do removal from November through March. Ginny will contact sea turtle protection people.

B. Training Manual Update (Landscape Maintenance Specifications)

Ginny spoke with the Assistant Public Services Director, Michael Pierce who stated that the funds have been transferred from Tree Canopy Restoration Fund to Grounds Maintenance Operating account and that the purchase order will be issued shortly.

The board then discussed the relocation of 22 mature oak trees from Gulfstream Hotel to Bryant Park as requested by Commissioner McVoy. The advisor suggested that an independent Certified Arborist with large tree relocation experience be contracted to evaluate the Oak Trees to see if they successfully relocated. The advisor estimated that it would cost around \$2,000 for each tree to be moved and then they will require years of watering with a possible survival rate of 50% or less. He then suggested that it might be better to use the Gulfstream Hotel tree mitigation fees to plant high quality trees that will have a better chance to survival and that will provide canopy benefits sooner than the relocated Oak trees due to the extensive recovery time required for the relocated trees. G. Powell stated said that she would speak with Commissioner McVoy about this issue.

C. South Palmway Median update.

The advisor D, McGrew reported that he spoke to the South Palm Park Neighborhood Association president, Greg Richter. The advisor will work with Mr. Richter to schedule a Tree Board presentation to the association when the meetings resume in the fall.

D. Brochure update

The advisor will make color copies of brochure and bring them to next week's workshop meeting so that we can make edits. Dave will also bring several brochure templates. Funding could come from Tree Canopy Restoration Fund as part of FY 2023 budget. The advisor will inquire about the City's brochure design and printing procedures.

E. Landscape Webpage update

Waiting on action from Board. Ginny will share her outline and suggested links. Board will send photos, contents and links. Suggests examples of Florida Friendly landscape principals, ground covers, native trees and shrubs and proper pruning guidelines.

Adjourned: 7:45 PM