

The City of Lake Worth Tree Board
City Hall Conference Room
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2023

Call to order: 6:15

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City manager, Carmen Davis and David McGrew, City Horticulturist/Board Advisor

Agenda additions, deletions, reordering: None

Approval of minutes:

Motion made by G. Powell to approve the October 12, 2022 Minutes. Seconded by D. Brown.

Yay: 4 Nay: 0

Motion made by D. Brown to approve the December 8, 2022 Minutes. Seconded by D. Kerner.

Yay: 4 Nay: 0

Public Attendance:

Richard Stowe spoke to the Board about using Basket Grass as a native groundcover. He left a list of groundcovers with the board.

Monica Bilotti reported that she went to the January 10th South Palm Park Neighborhood Association meeting and that she gave presentation on possible South Palmway median improvements. She told the board that the presentation was well received.

Reports: None

New Business:

A. Discussion regarding the Tree Board's update to the City Commission on January 17, 2023

Ginny Powell will present the Tree Board's update to the City Commission. Topics to include pruning at the beach and other city properties. The beach Landscape maintenance evaluation. Landscape specifications. Follow-up inspections. Beach Dune invasive plant eradication. Public outreach and education including presentations to neighborhood associations.

B. Beach and Casino Complex Landscape inspection and report

G. Powell gave the board an update on the Beach dune invasive plant removal project. G. Powell, Advisor D. McGrew, Assistant Public Works Director Mike Pierce met on January 9, 2023 to discuss the December 24, 2022 beach landscaping report and the dune invasive plant removal. M. Pierce informed the board that the Leisure Services will be involved in this project as it moves forward since the project will affect a property that they manage. The City manager asked if this project will impact the budget. The advisor responded that this project will not affect the current budget since it will be performed by city staff and possibly the landscape contractor under the existing contact. G. Powell reported that pruning continues to be an issue including the trimming of Sabal Palms above the horizontal plane and excessive pruning of hedges is still occurring. The board along with the City Manager discussed reporting landscape issues on City Property to City staff and landscape issues on

private property such as improper pruning of trees and possible non-permitted tree removals directly to Code Compliance. G. Powell reported to the there are issues with grass/sod located on the west side of the Casino Building. The City Manager informed the board that she will work on an approach for the Board's concerns to be relayed to staff and a response given by staff. D. Kerner expressed concern about trees being removed for development. The City Manager responded that this issue may be a policy discussion and decision. The Board, the City manager and the advisor discussed the frequency of the Board's landscape report. The advisor recommended that the Board's report be submitted quarterly. Reporting quarterly would allow for an issue to be identified and for staff to address while allowing time for the results to be seen. The board then discussed the existing landscape maintenance contract, the frequency of pruning and unnecessary pruning. The City manager told the board that she would speak to staff about these issues.

C. Artificial Turf, mulch and rock discussion

The Board discussed artificial turf, mulch and rock and how to better communicate the landscape regulations to the residents. The City manager suggested that the board meet and write the Board's position on artificial turf to present to the commission. The City Manager that once the Commission makes the policy decision the requirements will then be provided to the residents.

Old Business-Tabled to a future meeting

Adjourned: 8:02 PM