

The City of Lake Worth Tree Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
Teleconference
October 14, 2021

Call to order: 6:06 PM

Members Present: R. Stowe, G. Powell, D. Brown, D. Kerner

Members Absent: A. Gottlieb

Agenda additions, deletions, reordering: None

Public Attendance : None

Approval of minutes: September 9, 2021 & October 6, 2021

Motion made by R. Stowe to table approval of the minutes until the November 10, 2021 in order for the secretary to add more detail. Seconded by G. Powell.

Yays: 4 Nays: 0

Motion carries.

D. Kerner inquired about scheduling the next meeting. Since the next regularly scheduled meeting would fall on Veteran's Day, a holiday, the board agreed to meet Wednesday November 10, 2021.

A. Gottlieb joins meeting at 6:30 PM.

Reports:

Advisor D. McGrew shared information about the 2015 Urban Forestry Management plan and City tree survey. The board discussed invasive tree removal and inventory of trees on private properties.

G. Powell recommended that the board start and maintain a Board project/priority list.

R Stowe informed the board that Raymond Jungles spoke at the 2019 Festival of Trees. He also told the board about a memorial tree that was planted in 2014 in memory of former tree board chair person Josette Kaufman. He then told the board that he reached out to Mr. Jungles to provide a native planting plan for City Hall Annex which could be funded using grant money

New Business:

A. Tree complaint tracking

The board discussed how to track tree issues that are reported to the city. Chair D. Kerner suggested that a spreadsheet be created to track the complaints and the resolution of the complaints. A. Gottlieb offer to make the spreadsheet to track the complaints.

B. Dune invasive plant removal, maintenance and replanting discussion

In a follow up discussion regarding a Tree Board Workshop about dune planting and maintenance at the beach, G. Powell asked A. Gottlieb to assist in developing an invasive plant removal and replanting plan. Andrew mentioned possible approaches to implementing a dune maintenance program. The board discussed using both city contractors and volunteers to maintain the dune. The board thanked G. Powell for leading the workshop.

C. Brochure and community outreach discussion

D.Kerner mentioned a brochure that the board had printed years ago and asked it could be updated. Advisor stated that he felt that Tree Canopy Restoration Fund could be used to create educational brochures. Possible brochure topics include proper tree pruning and maintenance, removal of exotic pest plants, native ground-covers as an alternative to lawns and sod and residential landscape requirements.

D. Vacant Property Ordinance

The Board discussed the vacant property draft ordinance. The board opposed the inclusion of artificial turf, fencing, sod and lighting in the draft ordinance. R.Stowe suggested that the board write a letter to the commission to share the Board's concerns and propose an alternative to plant native shade trees in vacant lots adjacent to sidewalks. D. Kerner made a motion that the board draft a letter to be sent to the commission. Seconded by R. Stowe.

Yays: 5 Nays:0

D. Brown and R. Stowe will draft a letter to be sent to the commission outlining the Tree Board's opposition to this draft ordinance.

Old Business:

A. Beach Pruning

G. Powell announced that a purchase order was issued to Landscape Consultant Lisa Hammer to evaluate beach plantings and recommend a maintenance program. Ginny will meet with Lisa the day of the evaluation to introduce herself and point out some areas of concern.

B. Board projects and priorities

R. Stowe told the board about SeeClickFix, an app that helps citizens connect with city government to build stronger communities and more efficient government.

Meeting adjourned 7:32 PM