



TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020 @ 2:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Stormi Bivin, Vice Chairperson, opened the meeting at 2:00 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

III. ATTENDANCE

Members present: Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Kay Brown, Charles Sandell, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch

Members absent: None

Staff present: Bill Conerly, Deputy Director of Operations (Public Works), Michelle Garvey, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, Chris O'Connor, Community Programs Coordinator, and Michelle Diaz, Recording Secretary

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. JANUARY 22, 2020 TREE BOARD MINUTES

Stormi Bivin stated a correction be made under Section V. STAFF UPDATES, under the first paragraph, on the third bulleted item. Ms. Bivin requested that the spelling on “Shady Lade Black Olive” be changed to “Shady Lady Black Olive”.

Stomi Bivin suggested a change be made to an item under Section VI. NEW BUSINESS, under item C. F.L.O.W.E.R. AWARD NOMINATIONS, on the first sentence. Ms. Bivin requested that “received by Debbie Evans” be changed to “received from Debbie Evans” or “was submitted by Debbie Evans”.

Stormi Bivin stated a correction be made under Section VII. COMMENTS, under the fourth paragraph, on the last sentence. Ms. Bivin requested that “stated they are only budgeted” be changed to “stated they have only budgeted” or “stated they are only budgeting”.

Adrienne Deutsch suggested a change be made to an item under Section VII. COMMENTS, under the first paragraph, on the first sentence. Ms. Deutsch requested that “in gallon containers” be changed to “in three gallon containers”.

A motion was made by Debbie Evans, seconded by Adrienne Deutsch, to approve and adopt the January 22, 2020 Tree Board meeting minutes, with

corrections, unanimously passed by Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

V. STAFF UPDATES

A. RECENT PLANTINGS & STATUS UPDATES – BILL CONERLY

Bill Conerly updated the Tree Board on recent plantings and status updates.

Mr. Conerly indicated that we are currently in the process of replacing grass infected with the Mosaic virus (Lethal Viral Necrosis) in some of the medians along Forest Hill Boulevard (from Village Hall to Southern Boulevard), as well as around Wellington Trace. The grass is currently being replaced with either Juniper/Palmetto grass or ground cover and mulch. Staff is still researching into better alternative grass replacements. Stormi Bivin suggested Bitter Blue grass as an alternative. Charles Sandell inquired if this virus was common knowledge among residents in Wellington. Ms. Bivin stated that there was a public forum held at Village Hall with information on the virus.

Mr. Conerly stated that two (2) Laurel Oak trees were removed, with one being diseased and the other was damaged by a hurricane. These trees were replaced with two (2) Live Oak trees, along Wellington Trace.

Mr. Conerly informed the Tree Board that around one-thousand (1,000) Red Cedars were planted in the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Environmental Preserve, with the help of the Wellington Garden Club.

Mr. Conerly updated the Tree Board on the Tree Seedling Delivery. Mr. Conerly stated that the seedlings are on schedule to be picked up and delivered to the schools, as well as seedlings for future plantings taking place later this year.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. EARTH/ARBOR DAY 2020 EVENT

Michelle Garvey updated the Tree Board on the Earth/Arbor Day 2020 event. Ms. Garvey stated that the event is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Amphitheater. Next year's event will take place on the new boardwalk (Grand Promenade) along Lake Wellington.

Ms. Garvey stated that in honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, we are planning some different items, in addition to the same festivities that usually take place:

- Yoga demonstration sponsored by Baptist Health.
- Smokey Bear will make an appearance.
- Florida Forestry Association will have a booth set up to give out information.
- Six (6) confirmed vendors; Chris O'Connor is currently working on getting more vendors for the event.
- Planting two (2) Pond Cypress trees.

- Public Works staff will be present to instruct on proper pruning techniques.

Debbie Evans inquired if there would be a family event scheduled for after the event. Michelle Garvey confirmed that an event would take place.

Adrienne Deutsch asked how vendors would be able to get involved in the event. Michelle Garvey stated that vendors can email her at mgarvey@wellingtonfl.gov. Debbie Evans inquired how many total spaces were available for vendors. Ms. Garvey stated that the maximum is usually eighteen (18).

Stormi Bivin inquired which tree will be used for the raffle at the event. Bill Conerly stated that it has not been chosen yet. Ms. Bivin stated that since this is the 50th anniversary and it is a golden celebration, the tree could perhaps be one with “golden” in its name; the tree must also be native. Ms. Bivin suggested a Golden Cassia tree or Golden Raintree tree. Richard Cosola suggested a Yellow Crepe Myrtle tree. Ms. Bivin stated she would do additional research into different options for the tree raffle, and touch base with staff. Adrienne Deutsch stated that instead of a tree with “golden” in the name, we could use a tree that appears golden.

Stormi Bivin asked the Tree Board members for their availability for the tent at the event. Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans and Kay Brown stated they would be present. Ms. Bivin asked Bill Conerly to bring the box with information handouts to the event.

Michelle Garvey asked Stormi Bivin to clarify who would be the Tree Board representative to stand on stage with Council. Richard Cosola stated he would be available to stand on stage.

Debbie Evans presented the idea about recognizing the Wellington Garden Club, Boys Scouts, and Girl Scouts for their efforts leading up to Earth/Arbor Day 2020. Stormi Bivin suggested a proclamation, presented to Council, be made for recognition or a printed certificate. Michelle Diaz and Bill Conerly stated they would find out who could make this happen and report back to the Tree Board.

Debbie Evans requested an informational hand-out be created based on books she will provide. Michelle Diaz stated she would find links from the old Landscape page to add to these handouts.

B. ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Tree Board members reviewed and discussed the Tree Board Annual Work Plan for 2020.

Debbie Evans stated that under the Goals for 2020 section, a fourth item about participating in National Public Lands Day be added.

Debbie Evans inquired about the status of the Tree Inventory. Bill Conerly stated he would look into it and follow up with her.

A motion was made by Richard Cosola, seconded by Steve Lisi, to approve the Tree Board Annual Work Plan for 2020, as amended, unanimously passed by Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. F.L.O.W.E.R. AWARD NOMINATIONS

The five (5) F.L.O.W.E.R. Award applications were reviewed, discussed and voted on by the Tree Board members.

Adrienne Deutsch inquired if it was appropriate for a Tree Board member to be nominating their own property. Stormi Bivin stated she believes it is allowed, but wanted to suggest that when voting on the property, it should be by secret ballot. Michelle Diaz clarified that in the criteria of the F.L.O.W.E.R. Award, property owners or renters can nominate themselves or by others; there is no specific verbiage that states a Tree Board member cannot nominate themselves.

The 13882 Exotica Lane nomination was passed by secret ballot (4-2); with Kay Brown recused.

A motion was made by Adrienne Deutsch, seconded by Charles Sandell, to vote on the 1945 Canterbury Circle nomination, unanimously passed by Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

The 1945 Canterbury Circle nomination was unanimously passed by Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

Debbie Evans withdrew her nomination for 14909 Horseshoe Trace for consideration, due to some ongoing yard work with the property.

A motion was made by Charles Sandell, seconded by Kay Brown, to vote on the 13932 Cranberry Court nomination, unanimously passed by Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

The 13932 Cranberry Court nomination was unanimously passed by Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

A motion was made by Richard Cosola, seconded by Steve Lisi, to vote on the 13651 Exotica Lane nomination, unanimously passed by Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi, and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

The 13651 Exotica Lane nomination was not approved, with Steve Lisi for the nomination and Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, and Adrienne Deutsch against the nomination (1-6).

VIII. COMMENTS

Debbie Evans inquired if Cory Cramer could do a presentation at the next Tree Board meeting in June, about the updated Landscape Manual. Ms. Evans asked staff to find out when the manual would be available to access online.

Stormi Bivin informed the Tree Board that the Commemorative Tree Program now has a webpage on the Village of Wellington website, with information on the criteria and how to obtain a form. Adrienne Deutsch inquired about how the program can be advertised to the public. Staff will find out and report back to the Tree Board. Michelle Diaz stated that she would look into making the webpage accessible through the Landscape section of the website.

Charles Sandell informed the Tree Board that it is time to get in contact with tree trimmers, in preparation for hurricane season.

IX. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Richard Cosola, and seconded by Adrienne Deutsch to adjourn at 3:38 PM. The motion was unanimously passed, with Stormi Bivin, Richard Cosola, Debbie Evans, Charles Sandell, Kay Brown, Steve Lisi and Adrienne Deutsch (7-0).

Approved and Adopted: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Michelle Diaz, Recording Secretary