



TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 @ 2:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Debbie Evans, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 2:00 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

III. ATTENDANCE

Members present: Debbie Evans, Richard Cosola, Kathy Siena, Maureen Parkes, Uma Bhatti, and Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano

Members absent: Charles Sandell

Staff present: Michelle Garvey (Parks & Recreation), Ian Williams (Community Services), Will Gurney (Operations Supervisor), and Michelle Diaz (Recording Secretary)

A motion was made by Richard Cosola, and seconded by Uma Bhatti, to allow Maureen Parkes to attend the Tree Board meeting by calling in. The motion was unanimously passed, with Debbie Evans, Richard Cosola, Kathy Siena, Uma Bhatti, and Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano (5-0); with Charles Sandell absent.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. DECEMBER 1, 2021 TREE BOARD MINUTES

Debbie Evans stated a correction be made under Section VII. NEW BUSINESS, Item A. ARTIFICIAL TURF ZONING TEXT AGREEMENT, under the fourth paragraph, first sentence. Ms. Evans requested that “with the Tree Board’s recommendations” be removed from the sentence.

A motion was made by Richard Cosola, and seconded by Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, to approve and adopt the December 1, 2021 Tree Board meeting minutes, with corrections, unanimously passed by Debbie Evans, Richard Cosola, Kathy Siena, Maureen Parkes, Uma Bhatti, and Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano (6-0); with Charles Sandell absent.

V. STAFF UPDATES

A. RECENT PLANTINGS & STATUS UPDATES – WILL GURNEY

Will Gurney updated the Tree Board on recent plantings and status updates.

Mr. Gurney stated that most of the work that has been taking place since the last Tree Board meeting has been centered around replacing the sod and landscape materials in the medians throughout Wellington; the majority of the replacements were due to vehicular damage. Mr. Gurney also stated that in addition to this, substituting the sod in the medians along Wellington Trace with Citra Blue sod and other landscape materials is still ongoing. He stated that all the medians along Wellington Trace should be completed by the summer. He anticipates to begin replacements in the medians along Greenview Shores Boulevard next year.

Mr. Gurney updated the Tree Board on the status of the project on the wetland at Wellington Rotary Peace Park and landscape work that is ongoing at Greenbriar Park.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. EARTH/ARBOR DAY EVENT – 2022

A motion was made by Kathy Siena, and seconded by Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, to move Section VI. OLD BUSINESS, Item A. EARTH/ARBOR DAY EVENT – 2022 to be discussed before Section V. STAFF UPDATES, unanimously passed by Debbie Evans, Richard Cosola, Kathy Siena, Maureen Parkes, Uma Bhatti, and Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano (6-0); with Charles Sandell absent.

Michelle Garvey and Ian Williams updated the Tree Board with information pertaining to the 2022 Earth/Arbor Day Event, followed by discussion. Ms. Garvey stated the event is scheduled to take place on April 23, 2022 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Promenade; it will be preceded by the Great American Clean Up, which will begin at 10:00 AM in front of the Wellington Community Center. The plant being given away at this year's event will be Butterfly Orchids and participants will have a chance to enter a raffle for a chance to win a 15-gallon Jatropha; Will Gurney added that Red Maple and Sweet Bay Magnolia tree seedlings will also be given away. Council members will also be planting a Cypress tree along the lakeside of Lake Wellington.

Ms. Garvey stated that any suggestions or concerns should be forwarded to her.

B. TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

Will Gurney updated the Tree Board on the status of the 2022 Tree Seedling Giveaway. Mr. Gurney stated that staff has been in contact with schools and inquiring about how many seedlings they will be requesting.

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

The F.L.O.W.E.R. Award applications were reviewed, discussed and voted on by the Tree Board members. There were two (2) nominations submitted.

A motion was made by Richard Cosola, and seconded by Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, to approve the two F.L.O.W.E.R. Award nominations. The motion was unanimously passed, with Debbie Evans, Richard Cosola, Kathy Siena, Maureen Parkes, Uma Bhatti, and Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano (6-0); with Charles Sandell absent.

Kathy Siena suggested that the Tree Board review the F.L.O.W.E.R. Award Criteria Sheet to update it and possibly change the acronym. Debbie Evans suggested that "Florida Friendly Landscape" be included under the Residential Criteria for evaluation section, fifth bullet point, after Xeriscape.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. TREE BOARD ANNUAL WORK PLAN – 2022

Tree Board reviewed the Tree Board Annual Work Plan for 2022.

Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano suggested that updating the F.L.O.W.E.R. Award Criteria sheet be added to the work plan under Section A. Education and Public Relations.

Debbie Evans requested that a bullet point be added under Section B. Partnerships, that states "Participate in the annual Great American Clean Up".

A motion was made by Kathy Siena, and seconded by Uma Bhatti, to approve the Tree Board Annual Work Plan for 2022, with changes, unanimously passed by Debbie Evans, Kathy Siena, Maureen Parkes, Uma Bhatti, and Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano (5-0); with Richard Cosola and Charles Sandell absent.

VIII. COMMENTS

Richard Cosola informed the Tree Board that he would be resigning as a member of the Tree Board at this time.

Kathy Siena announced that Wellington Garden Club would be hosting the Gardens of Distinction event, which would be a garden tour of six private gardens on Saturday, April 2, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Debbie Evans presented a publication regarding synthetic turf grass.

IX. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano, and seconded by Kathy Siena, to adjourn at 3:40 PM. The motion was unanimously passed, with Debbie Evans, Kathy Siena, Maureen Parkes, Uma Bhatti, and Lisa Stattmiller-Ferrano (5-0); with Richard Cosola and Charles Sandell absent.