



Tree Board

Date and Time: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 @ 2:00 p.m.
Location: Wellington City Hall, 12300 W. Forest Hill Blvd.
Council Chambers

MINUTES

I. Call To Order

Chairperson, Stormi Bivin called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Observed.

III. Attendance

A. Sign In Sheet

Members present: Stormi Bivin, Kay Brown, Richard Cosola, Joan Kaplan and Charles Sandell

Members absent: Debbie Evans and William Gross

Staff present: Brian Hopper and Chris Macfarlane

IV. Meeting Minutes

A. January 18, 2017 Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Ms. Joan Kaplan, seconded by Dr. Charles Sandell and was unanimously passed by the Board (Stormi Bivin, Kay Brown, Richard Cosola, Joan Kaplan and Charles Sandell), to approve and adopt the January 18, 2017 Tree Board meeting minutes.

V. Staff Updates – Brian Hopper

Brian Hopper updated the Tree Board on recent plantings and distributed a tree planting list, which documents trees planted in Wellington by the Landscape Division since the last Tree Board meeting on January 18, 2017.

VI. Old Business

Ms. Stormi Bivin requested to revisit the Commemorative Tree Program form. There was discussion regarding the ten (10) character restriction on the form. Mr. Hopper advised that he would be discussing the length of the text with the sponsor and it would also depend on the vendor as they would

do their best to fit the wording on the plaque. Mr. Hopper advised that the proof from the vendor would be sent to the sponsor for approval before it is finalized.

Mr. Hopper informed the Tree Board members that the Commemorative Tree Program form still needs to go through the proper channels for approval. Once it is approved, with any changes, Mr. Hopper will send a copy of the form to all Tree Board members.

Mr. Hopper advised the Tree Board that he will be obtaining Firebush and Sweetbay Magnolia seedlings for the Earth Day/Arbor Day event on April 22, 2017.

VII. New Business

Tree Award

There was discussion about the possibility of developing another award, in addition to an award for landscape (the F.L.O.W.E.R. Award), for recognizing an extraordinary tree.

There was discussion about a name for the new Award and Mr. Hopper suggested "Treemendous Trees of Wellington." It was agreed by all Tree Board members that they are interested in developing a second award to recognize extraordinary trees and to revise the current F.L.O.W.E.R. Award form so that it will have two categories: Landscape and Treemendous Tree.

A motion was made by Dr. Charles Sandell, seconded by Ms. Kay Brown and was unanimously passed by the Board (Stormi Bivin, Kay Brown, Richard Cosola, Joan Kaplan and Charles Sandell) to revise the existing F.L.O.W.E.R. Award form by adding two category boxes: one for Landscape and one for Treemendous Tree under "Fabulous Landscapes of Wellington Earning Recognition."

Ms. Bivin pointed out that the criteria for the F.L.O.W.E.R. Award may need to be reviewed and asked that the criteria form be emailed to all Tree Board members to see if any of the criteria needs to be changed. Ms. Bivin requested this be added to the Agenda for discussion at the next Tree Board Meeting on June 7, 2017.

VIII. Draft 2017 Tree Board Annual Work Plan

Dr. Charles Sandell had a comment on the first Initiative, A) Education and Public Relations, "Distribute tree pruning brochure with utility bills annually." Dr. Sandell discussed how there needs to be

education about CO2 sequestration, taking CO2 out of the air and not just putting it in. The other day a brown leaf floated down from a tree and that is CO2 sequestration. When the leaf hits the ground, nature is taking CO2 out of the air and putting it into the form of cellulose. Literally, your trees in your yard are taking the CO2 out of the air that is generated by your utility bill. Dr. Sandell advised that people need to be aware of what happens to the grass clippings and the leaves in their yard and the value of leaves. What happens to those leaves is of paramount importance. People do not recognize it for its ability to undo what our utility bill is doing. Dr. Sandell wanted to bring this up because we are distributing the Tree Planting brochure with our utility bill.

Ms. Stormi Bivin asked if there were any suggested changes to the Draft 2017 Tree Board Annual Work Plan and there were no suggested changes.

A motion was made by Mr. Richard Cosola, seconded by Ms. Joan Kaplan and was unanimously passed by the Board (Stormi Bivin, Kay Brown, Richard Cosola, Joan Kaplan and Charles Sandell) to accept the 2017 Tree Board Annual Work Plan.

Mr. Hopper advised that he and staff will be working on the Tree inventory this year. It still needs to be approved by Council, but we will be moving forward with it this year.

IX. Comments

There was discussion as to why Sweetbay Magnolia was chosen as the tree seedling. Mr. Hopper replied that it is a good native tree, does not grow too large, has a flower and can also be considered an ornamental, as well.

There was discussion as to how large trees (for example, a Mahogany and such trees, which are placed in a swale) get approved when a new community is being built. Mr. Hopper replied that it is up to the landscape architect that the developer has on staff and the designs of the community.

Dr. Charles Sandell pointed out that the first two weeks in March is termite season and the damage they could cause.

Ms. Kay Brown thanked Mr. Hopper for making the Sugar Pond Manor Silverbell median area beautiful, as it has been bare for a while.

Ms. Stormi Bivin also thanked Mr. Hopper and his staff for doing an amazing job.

X. Adjourn

Motion was made by Ms. Joan Kaplan, seconded by Mr. Richard Cosola, and unanimously passed by the Board (Stormi Bivin, Kay Brown, Richard Cosola, Joan Kaplan and Charles Sandell) to adjourn at 2:53 pm.

Approved and Adopted: _____
Signature Date

Chris Macfarlane, Assistant Recording Secretary

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