



Tree Board

Date and Time: Wednesday, October 4, 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, Debbie Evans, Joan Kaplan, Charles Sandell, Scott Wortman

Members absent: Kay Brown and Richard Cosola

Council member present: Councilwoman Tanya Siskind

Staff present: Brian Hopper, Operations Supervisor, Landscape Division, Chris Macfarlane, Assistant Recording Secretary, Michelle Diaz, Public Works.

IV. Meeting Minutes

A. June 7, 2017 Tree Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Debbie Evans, seconded by Ms. Joan Kaplan to approve and adopt the June 7, 2017 Tree Board meeting minutes, approved unanimously by Ms. Stormi Bivin, Ms. Debbie Evans, Ms. Joan Kaplan, Dr. Charles Sandell, Mr. Scott Wortman (5-0), with Ms. Kay Brown and Mr. Richard Cosola absent.

V. Staff Updates

A. Recent Plantings and Status Updates – Brian Hopper

Mr. Brian Hopper updated the Tree Board on tree losses from the recent hurricane.

Mr. Hopper also advised that National Public Lands Day was celebrated on Saturday, September 30th at the Wellington Environmental Preserve (Section 24) with several groups from Wellington, including the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Garden Club members, etc. Approximately 750 South Florida Slash Pine seedlings were planted.

VI. Old Business

A. Commemorative Tree Program

The Commemorative Tree Program form was reviewed and the Tree Board members agreed to change verbiage from "Plaque size is 4"x6" and limited to 3 lines with 10 letters or characters each, including spaces" to new verbiage, "Plaque size is 4" x 6" and therefore space is limited and shall be subject to final approval by the Village."

VII. New Business

B. F.L.O.W.E.R. Award Nominations

The F.L.O.W.E.R. Award form and criteria were reviewed. It was clarified that nomination forms may be submitted at any time and nominations will be reviewed at the December 6, 2017 Tree Board Meeting.

There was discussion on the Criteria of the F.L.O.W.E.R. Award form where at the bottom it states: "Note: This award program focuses on the front yard only..." The consensus of the Board was that the "front yard only" verbiage should be changed to "street side." This allows for a property to be included that has street side landscaping where frontage may not be visible.

VIII. Comments

Brian Hopper updated Tree Board members about exploring a new program potentially involving the Tree Board, the Garden Club, as well as Village resources and staff to partner with local schools to get more trees planted on school campuses.

Councilwoman Tanya Siskind spoke about developing a new program with the schools and raising student awareness so that schools can become more involved. Councilwoman Siskind had several suggestions on how to have the students involved, such as giving all the eleven (11) schools a tree early in the year (next year) so that they may incorporate it into a Club activity or start a pilot program with a few schools. Students can also earn volunteer hours for taking care of these trees. Maybe the Tree Board could speak to some of the school clubs or have a Question and Answer event to bring awareness of the Tree Board. Perhaps a list can be put together of age appropriate books for different schools about the importance of trees, planting trees or starting gardens in the environment. Also, for Earth/Arbor Day event, involve the students and possibly other national holidays that have anything to do with the environment and community service, so that we may engage our schools, students and the Tree Board.

Councilwoman Siskind thanked Debbie Evans for reaching out to her and also thanked the Tree Board.

Brian Hopper stated that when the Landscape Code section is ready for their review it will be e-mailed to all Tree Board members for their comments, pending notification from David Flinchum.

It was requested that David Flinchum, or a member of his staff, come to a future Tree Board meeting to update them on the status of the Landscape Code revisions. Brian Hopper replied that he would make that request.

There was discussion on standards for landscaping and how to reach out to gated communities. Mr. Wortman replied that he represents several Homeowner Associations and can put together a package to mail out to the HOA communities. Mr. Hopper replied that David Flinchum advised there will be a Landscape Manual.

IX. Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Scott Wortman, seconded by Dr. Charles Sandell to adjourn at 3:08 p.m., agreed unanimously by Ms. Stormi Bivin, Ms. Debbie Evans, Ms. Joan Kaplan, Mr. Scott Wortman, Dr. Charles Sandell (5-0), with Ms. Kay Brown and Mr. Richard Cosola absent.

Approved and Adopted: _____
Signature

_____ Date

Chris Macfarlane, Assistant Recording Secretary