

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
December 3, 2012

The work session was called to order by Vice Mayor Steven Leary at 3:35 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Kenneth Bradley (arrived 3:40pm)
Commissioner Steven Leary
Commissioner Sarah Sprinkel
Commissioner Tom McMacken

Members absent:

Commissioner Carolyn Cooper

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight
Assistant City Manager Michelle del Valle
Deputy City Clerk Michelle Bernstein
Chief of Forestry Contracts/Maint. Dru Dennison
Chief of Forestry, Lee Mackin
Electric Utility Director, Jerry Warren
Assistant Utility Director, Terry Hotard
Parks & Recreation Director, John Holland
Code Enforcement Officer/Arborist, Alan Lee
Building Director, George Wiggins

Urban Forest Management Plan (Draft)

Assistant City Manager Michelle del Valle provided a PowerPoint presentation to include: Our trees – yesterday and today, benefits of a healthy urban forest, what is an urban forest management plan, our urban forest management plan (including mission and results from the study), the importance of diversity (including age and species diversity), maintaining trees in the rights-of-way and clearing vegetation (including recommendations) and funding opportunities.

Discussion ensued regarding the deterioration of the tree canopy, the importance of replanting trees and how age and diversity come into play, tree trimming propositions, who is responsible for maintaining trees in the rights-of-way (City vs. residents) and funding alternatives associated with each, the need for educating the community on how to plant the right tree in the right spot and how to care for it including proper pruning practices.

A majority of the Commission agreed that this draft plan needs some major fine tuning and should not be presented to the public at this time. They recommended that the Tree Preservation Board review this item and weigh in on it and for the Commission to have further discussions as well.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.



City Clerk Cynthia Bonham