



Tree Preservation Board

September 22, 2020 5:00pm

Virtual Meeting

Board Members Present

Chuck Bell, Jill Bendick, John Nico, Lawrence Lyman, Meggen Wilson, Tom McMacken

Board Members Absent

Margie Bridges

Administrative

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Chuck Bell at 5:05pm

Minutes Approval - *Motion made by Jill Bendick to approve the August 25, 2020 minutes with the correction of the September meeting date, and the correction of Chuck Bell as co-chair; seconded by John Nico. Motion carried unanimously.*

Action Items (None)

Reports

- Urban Forestry Update- Josh Nye, Urban Forestry Superintendent
 - Josh Nye, Superintendent gave an Urban Forestry division update; there is currently an increase of resident request for electric utility maintenance due to hurricane season, and summer growth. Currently canopy lifting in the Golfside Dr. area, moving on the Windsong neighborhood, and then Park Ave, New England Ave area. Staff is cleaning around traffic signs, and low areas on intersections. Right-of-way tree planting program to resume next month. Currently Live Oaks are the majority species of trees planted. Board members have some concern of artificial turf placed in the city's right of way. Jill/Lawrence suggested a public schedule of a rolling/tentative sequence of canopy lifting/maintenance in specific areas. Meggen inquired about maintenance on the islands on East Reading Way and East Kings Way, staff have started with the maintenance work, and planning of that area.

Discussion

1. Tree Protection Code (Chapter 58, Article V., Division 6)

The purpose for revisions are to clean up the ordinance and remove outdated literature and to update the definition section. Chairman McMacken informed the board of upcoming possible changes to the state ordinance. Staff will prepare draft code revisions based on direction from the board in the following areas. Residential tree removal permitting, fees, fines, mitigation, and right of way tree management. Some

options to amending the code would be to eliminate the residential permitting requirements; to require permits for trees where letters are not obtained. Staff is inquiring about a tree assessment educational program; residents would request a tree assessment from one of the arborist prior to tree removal, also to offer a replacement tree one more option to still have permitting when the state law does not apply and offer the assessment.

New Business

Adjourn Motion made by Chuck Bell to adjourn the meeting seconded by Jill Bendick; meeting adjourned at 6:16pm

Next meeting scheduled for TBD