



City of Palm Coast

City Hall
160 Lake Avenue
Palm Coast, FL 32164

Meeting Minutes Beautification & Environmental Advisory Committee

Chairman Glenn Partelow
Vice Chair Kenneth Jones
Committee Member John Kapcar
Committee Member Joanna Salkovitz
Committee Member Jeffery Seib

Thursday, February 22, 2018

5:00 PM

City Hall Community Wing

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A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Partelow called the February 22, 2018 meeting of the Beautification and Environmental Advisory Committee (BEAC) to order @ 5:03PM.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: 3 - Member Partelow, Committee Member Salkovitz, and Committee Member Seib

Excused: 2 - Vice Chair Jones, and Committee Member Kapcar

C. MINUTES

1 [17-443](#) MEETING MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 25, 2018 BEAUTIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

A motion was made by Committee Member Salkovitz, and seconded by Committee Member Seib, that the minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by the following vote:

Approved: 3 - Member Partelow, Committee Member Salkovitz, and Committee Member Seib

Excused: 2 - Vice Chair Jones, and Committee Member Kapcar

D. OLD BUSINESS

2 [17-444](#) PRESENTATION ON 2018 BIRDS OF A FEATHER FEST

Mr. Bill Butler, Landscape Architect for the City of Palm Coast gave an oral presentation giving the highlights of this event.

Mr. Seib: Were all the birding trips fairly well attended?

ANS: Mr. Butler: Yes, I think they were. Mr. Peterson spoke at the auditorium and it was well attended as well. Jason Giraulo, (Digital Communications Coordinator for the City of Palm Coast) he was in charge (of the event) and he was ecstatic.

The Agenda Item was Received and Filed.

E. NEW BUSINESS

3 [17-445](#) PRESENTATION ON REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT OF TREES ALONG PALM COAST PARKWAY

Carol Mini, Urban Forester for the City of Palm Coast, gave a presentation which is attached to these minutes regarding the removal of dead or dying trees along Palm Coast Parkway.

Mr. Seib: Who owns that property along that area (referring to the presentation)?

ANS: Mr. Butler: We do, the City (of Palm Coast).

Mr. Seib: Ms. Mini, you are the Urban Forester for the City?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Yes, I am.

Mr. Seib: What is your academic background?

ANS: Ms. Mini: I have a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in Environmental Horticulture and I'm a Certified Arborist through the International Society of Arboriculture. I've been a Certified Arborist for 12 years now.

Mr. Seib: So you are one of the people who can certify that the tree is decaying and in a condition where the tree needs to be removed?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Yes.

Mr. Seib: Now, is that every tree that is along that strip by Shangri-La? Every one that is in the right-of-way, that is?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Yes.

Mr. Butler clarified that there is a Live Oak tree (across from the Community Center) in that area referenced above that is staying that only needs a little bit of pruning.

Ms. Mini clarified that the City's plan is to replace the trees with better quality trees and those that are mistletoe resistant.

Mr. Seib: Mistletoe wouldn't be a major contributing factor to these trees being in this condition (would it)?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Yes, it is. Mistletoe is a parasite and it gets down into the xylem. So it pulls out the nutrients before the tree can send it down to the leaves. So if you don't

get the mistletoe out early, when it is small, one clump, you have to cut the whole branch out. You can't just cut one little piece and think you're ok. You have to take the branch all the way back to the trunk to eliminate (the mistletoe infestation). And if you wait too long, it (mistletoe) will start colonizing it and then the leaves will die back, then the branches die and then that starts the downward spiral of the tree dying.

Mr. Seib: So what are the trees that will be replaced and how many of them (are to be replaced), it isn't 14 right, it is 12 or something?

ANS: Ms. Mini: No, what we are doing, I think is 9 or 10 Tulip Poplars. And then we are doing something a little different because we planted a lot of Live Oaks, and while I love Live Oaks I'm just concerned that if we don't start branching out to other species if we should get a disease that affects Live Oaks. I don't want a whole city decimate and we lose so many large trees. So we are going to try Tulip Poplars and see how they do, I've seen them in St. Augustine and they look beautiful. We are going to intermix palm trees.

Chair Partelow: What would be the diameter of the Poplars?

ANS: Ms. Mini: 4 inch to 4 1/2 inch caliber and about 16 feet high roughly.

Chair Partelow: Are you going to be able to dig between those Oaks and not hit roots?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Well, we are going to hit some roots but it won't be as bad as trying to replant back, so there are so many different utilities running under those trees so we are going to have to be very careful. So we are basically going to stump ground those stumps down. We are going to call in locates prior to us starting digging. And unfortunately, I'm thinking we are going to have to be hand digging to get these trees in.

Mr. Seib: So the reason these trees are in such poor condition after only half of what would be a normal lifespan of the Laurel Oaks would be, is that they were in this exposed position?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Well, Laurel Oak's life span in nature, when they are out in the wild is about 75 years. Well, when you put trees like this next to a road, next to a sidewalk, the sidewalk has been repaired here and there. You see all these lines, I don't know when they put in gas lines and things, if they cut roots.

Mr. Seib: Don't they also have a large number of Laurel Oaks in the Shangra-La parking area?

ANS: Ms. Mini: They actually have Red Maples and they have a couple of really nice Live Oaks. They do have some Laurel Oaks along Florida Park Drive. They have 3 laurels there that are not in good shape either, which need to be removed as well. But they are on Shangra-La property not City (property), we will prune what is hanging over the right-of-way, that would be a potential hazard, but the trees themselves would need to be removed by Shangra-La.

Chair Partelow: Do you have any public complaints about cutting these things?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Not as of yet.

ANS: Mr. Butler: There are some press releases to let people know why they had to come out, but we haven't heard anything, at all.

Mr. Seib: Does an arborist come onto a home owner's property (to inspect the tree) if they wish to remove it?

ANS: Mr. Butler: That tree (that Mr. Seib is referring to) was inspected by John Beaudet, who also is a Certified Arborist just like Carol. That tree, as I recall, was in

good condition but he agreed to mitigate for it. So he had to plant another tree.

The members discussed the recent changes to the Landscape Code - Chapter 11 in the Land Development Code as well as discussions at the Florida State level regarding limiting local governments rights to tell home owner's what they can do with trees on their own property.

Mrs. Salkovitz: I have a question, on these trees here, I know Live Oaks really tear up the sidewalks a lot because their roots extend far. How about these trees do they have the same kind of root system as Live Oaks do?

ANS: Ms. Mini: The Tulip Poplar, well they have roots, yes, it is possible but it will take a long time. If that does happen there are preventative measures, such as installing Silva Cell Boxes underneath the sidewalks. Also sidewalks that are much more flexible such as, there are flexi paver that we could use, in those areas where tree roots are concerned. That is something I wish we would do more of, trying to install those preventative measures now. In the arboriculture world there are preventative measures to help the trees have a good solid root structure while not damaging parking lots, roadways, and sidewalks.

Mr. Butler asked that Ms. Mini update the BEAC members on that status of the Tree Trimming Classes that Ms. Mini has been running since last fall to certify tree trimmers who work on commercial and/or multi-family properties within the City.

Chair Partelow: What is the fee for that (referring to the Tree Trimming Class)?

ANS: Ms. Mini: Twenty dollars and we provide lunch with that as well.

Mrs. Salkovitz: If a homeowner has a tree and they don't know whether or not it needs to come down, if they don't know if it is hazardous, can they call the City to have an arborist come out and look at it?

Ms. Mini: They can call the City to request a tree removal permit and an inspector will come out and it will be one of three (inspectors). One of the three inspectors is a Certified Arborist. They each have a different section (of the City) that they cover. I'm not sure where that would be. The City doesn't provide an arborists, we want you to hire your own arborist. Because we would be taking work away from a Certified Arborist and that is what they do. So a home owner can hire a Certified Arborist by going to the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) webpage, there is find an arborist link, you put in your zip code and it will pull up all consulting arborists. The arborist would come out and he/she would write a report that indicates there findings and that the property owner is requesting a tree removal permit. Then the property owner would call, they would send an inspector and review the report and most likely issue a hazard tree removal permit and instruct on replacement if necessary.

The Agenda Item was Received and Filed.

G. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public participation.

F. DISCUSSION OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Discussion of the application process for the existing members to reapply to be on the BEAC as all existing members' terms expire on May 1, 2018. All applications are due by April 6, 2018.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM.

*Respectfully submitted:
Irene Schaefer, Recording Secretary*

[17-447](#)

ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES