



Tree Preservation Board Minutes

June 27, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Chapman Room
401 S Park Ave | Winter Park, Florida

Present

Kim Ashby, Christina Schloot, and Melanie Love

Absent

Rebecca Gallardo, Steve Carras, *Christine Girand, *Jill Bendick(V)

*RSVP'd but did not show

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chairperson, Kim Ashby at 5:10pm

2. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the May 23, 2023 Minutes

Minutes approval tabled until next regularly scheduled meeting due to lack of quorum

3. Citizen Comments (for items not on the agenda)

Cynthia Edmonds, 1721 Windsor Dr, spoke regarding a tree on her property line that her neighbor had cut down without her consent while she was not home. The neighbor was given an “after-the-fact” permit for removing the tree without approval. Ms. Edmonds is upset that the tree was taken down and the neighbor was not reprimanded further. She stated the neighbor was only fined \$35.00 and required to replant two 3” caliper shade trees.

Mr. Nye clarified that the “after-the-fact” permit is for documentation purposes and does not imply the removal was approved. It is a formality in order to get the code violation in process. Board inquired if the neighbor would be required to follow the same process as the party on Azalea Lane. Mr. Nye stated that as long as the neighbor complies and replants as required per the permit there will be no further action required.

Ms. Edmonds stated the neighbor planted little gem magnolias which she does not agree should be considered as meeting the requirements. Mr. Nye stated if they are indeed little gems, those will not be sufficient as they are not considered shade trees. Staff will visually confirm the plantings and follow up with the neighbor. Chairperson, Ms. Ashby, stated she understands the situation but does not feel comfortable speaking further on the details without it being an action item, without documentation and details pertaining to the removal, and without the neighbor being present.

4. Public Hearings

a. Tree Removal Appeal - 1241 Alexa Dr.

Appeal tabled until next regularly scheduled meeting due to lack of quorum.

b. Tree Removal Appeal - 2923 Cove

Resident, Mr. Woodson was in attendance to present his case. Mr. Nye is going to recall the application and review it with City Clerk to ensure he explores all the options for the appellant. Mr. Woodson stated he will be leaving town in two weeks and will be gone for two months. He is very concerned about storm damage. Ms. Ashby apologized for the lack of quorum. Action on appeal tabled until next regularly scheduled meeting due to lack of quorum.

5. Action Items

6. Non-Action Items

7. Staff Updates

a. Tree Recording Project

Mr. Nye, Parks Service Manager, informed the Board that he was approached by a gentleman after the Seven Oaks project who proposed working on a project recording the electromagnetics surrounding trees. Board expressed interest and would like to know more about the project. Ms. Schloot stated she would be willing to make a connection with Rollins College pertaining to the project. Ms. Love inquired how many red maples have been planted in the City. Mr. Nye stated a few years ago a Mead Gardens project included planting a series of different species of which many were red maples. There are 210 red maples listed in our TreeKeeper system at this time. He stated that Magnolias and red maples require at least some irrigation so he tries not to plant them in areas that do not appear to have appropriate irrigation.

Mr. Nye informed the board that the developer, Fred Shaw, recently passed away so the case of Shaw vs City of Winter Park has been finalized and the court upheld the case in favor of the City. Ms. Ashby, inquired about having a “take away” printed out in order to be mindful and to distribute to others looking to develop in Winter Park so that everyone is properly informed. Mr. Nye agrees and believes expanding peoples’ knowledge on how trees can be harmed during construction activity would be beneficial.

8. Board Comments

9. Upcoming Agenda Items

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:39pm

/s/ Recording Secretary Laura Halsey