



Tree Preservation Board Minutes

July 25, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Chapman Room
401 S Park Ave | Winter Park, Florida

Present

Kim Ashby, Christina Schloot, Christine Girand, and Melanie Love

Absent

Rebecca Gallardo, Steve Carras (V), Jill Bendick (V)

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chairperson, Kim Ashby at 5:00pm

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the May 23, 2023 Minutes
- b. Approval of the June 27, 2023 Minutes

Motion made by Christina Schloot, seconded by Christine Girand, to approve both sets of minutes. Motion carries unanimously

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

Charlie Williams, member of the newly formed Winter Park Land Trust Tree Committee, introduced himself and extended an invitation to the Tree Preservation Board Members and Staff to attend their upcoming introductory event on August 19th, 2023, from 6:00-7:30pm at the Winter Park Library. The event will serve as an ice breaker and they will have a resource panel available to answer questions to allow attendees to learn more about the trees of Winter Park.

4. Public Hearings

a. Tree Removal Appeal - 1241 Alexa Dr.

Ms. Hinrichsen, Urban Forestry Superintendent, presented the case to the Board. Board inquired about re-submittal, which is possible should the status of the tree should change.

Motion made by Melanie Love, seconded by Christina Schloot, to uphold the denial. Motion passes 3-1 with Christine Girand opposing.

b. Tree Removal Appeal - 2923 Cove

Ms. Hinrichsen presented the appeal and discussion ensued. Mr. Woodson, appellant was not in attendance therefore Mr. Nye spoke on his behalf based off of notes from a

phone conversation with the appellant prior to the meeting. The concerns shared with Mr. Nye by the appellant included proximity of the trees from the house and a/c unit, refusal of contractors to perform work due to difficulty of ingress/egress, hardship for the elderly property owners in getting around the trees, concerns over potential damage to the home from failure during storms, and the potential to be dropped by their home insurance provider. Ms. Hinrichsen stated the trees in question do not pose a threat as they are shielded from winds, she does not find the trees to be in danger of being uprooted during storms. Mrs. Schloot inquired if approving one of the trees and denying the other is an option. Chairperson Ashby inquired if the insurance company had provided documentation of intent to cancel Mr. Woodson's policy should he not have the trees removed. It was determined that he had not received letter of intent but the appellant was concerned about liability should the trees fail in the future. Ms. Girand inquired about any ADA issues that may be causing issues for the residents. Mr. Nye stated the applicant did not properly document the trees in his tree removal application and there is a smaller third tree that should have been included. Said third tree was assessed and included in the denial. The Board inquired if the City has the authority to reverse their decision on a permit that has been denied. Mr. Nye stated the City can in fact reverse their findings and the Board can uphold the appeal or approve any part of the appeal. Ms. Girand would like to know if there is an ADA concern with either of the trees in question. It was found that there is not a confirmed ADA concern.

Motion made by Kim Ashby to approve the removal of the 13" dbh tree and uphold denial to remove the 23" dbh tree. No second was made, motion fails.

Ms. Love inquired about obtaining additional information on the reasons for requesting removal of the trees. Mr. Nye suggested the Board make a motion to vote on today as the next step is to present the appeal to the City Commission.

**Motion made by Christina Schloot, seconded by Melanie Love, to reverse/approve the removal of the 13" dbh and to uphold the denial of the 23" dbh tree.
Motion passes unanimously.**

5. Action Items

6. Non-Action Items

7. Staff Updates

a. Planning & Zoning Board code revision work session

Mr. Nye informed the Board that the Planning & Zoning meeting had been canceled.

b. New plantings

Mr. Nye informed the Board that there have been seventy-one plantings which included crape myrtles, live oaks, and magnolias

c. Community Canopy

Mr. Nye informed the Board that he has re-upped the partnership for the Community Canopy for another year. Tree species and events dates have not yet been announced.

d. Urban Forestry Staffing

Mr. Nye announced Ms. Hinrichsen's promotion to Urban Forestry Superintendent and informed the Board that staff is looking to hire an Arborist. The application process has begun and he will be conducting interviews in the near future.

8. Board Comments

9. Upcoming Agenda Items

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:44pm

/s/ Recording Secretary Laura Halsey