

## FEAB Minutes

December 13, 2019

Members: Gary Gover, Mike Shelton, Ben Frater, Tony Pritchett, Jeanine Normand and Nicole Love

Guests: Lee Faulk and Mike Nance

Minutes taken by: Mike Shelton

1. Call to order at 3pm
2. Approval of the November minute by voice vote. Motion: Frater; Second: Shelton
3. Mobile Bay NEP Coastal Comprehensive Management Plan. Mr. Gover introduced the Board to the Mobile Bay NEP Coastal Comprehensive Management Plan (CCMP) to raise awareness of the contents on the CCMP. The CCMP contains information, strategies and recommended actions to improve the health of Mobile Bay, its watershed and tributaries. The CCMP is available on the Mobile Bay NEP website. The Board expressed interest in the plan and offered general discussion. No specific action was taken by the Board on this matter.
4. Mr. Gover introduced to the Board an infographic - 10 ways to make every day-earth-day. The infographic could be used as an educational tool provided by COF to residents and employees. Board discussed the outreach option for the item. The infographic is attached to the minutes. Mr. Shelton reported that a climate presentation planned for the Council is scheduled to advance into the next calendar year due to time constraints. No specific action was taken by the Board on this matter.
5. Mr. Gover brought to the attention of the Board the plight of trees in the COF and that COF has the Tree City designation. The Board discussed opportunities to educate residents on the many values of preserving mature trees and planting new trees. The Board discussed health benefits provided by trees to residents and to birds and wildlife. Board members identified several educational resources including the existing Greener by the Yard that identify native trees. Education could accompany tree hand-outs at Arbor Day events to emphasize the need to plant and maintain trees for the benefits already identified by the Board. The Board discussed an urban tree study conducted by the City of St. Louis that reinforced the many health, aesthetic, energy conservation, stormwater management and other benefits provided by urban tree preservation and planting. The St. Louis study is attached to these minutes. Mr. Pritchett brought up to the Board the COF tree ordinance. He expressed that there is a need to consider revising the ordinance to include more trees under protection and mentioned the tree ordinance passed by the City of Ocean Springs (§4.11 Tree Protection and Preservation, Code of Ocean Springs, MS) as an example. The Board discussed the need for increased enforcement and raising awareness of protecting tree to bolster buy-in from residents for additional enforcement on private property. No specific action was taken by the Board on this matter.
6. Mr. Gover brought to the Board the topic of the Triangle Conservancy and its structure and activities regarding the Triangle property. The item elicited discussion from the Board about uses of property and revived points discussed at past meetings regarding use and conservation easements. Mr. Pritchett informed the Board that Councilman Conyers brought to the Council a resolution regarding a plan to establish a working group made up of residents, Council-people and experts to assist the COF in exploring

option for use and preservation of the property. The Council did not act on the resolution when it was introduced.

7. The Board discussed at length the development proposed for Single Tax Colony property near Fig Ave/Tatumville Gully. The Board discussed the problems with loss of habitat, erosion and negative effects to the adjacent COF-owner property that would result from development. The consensus of the Board is that instead of developing the tract the Single Tax Colony should donate it to the COF. No specific action was taken by the Board on this matter.

8. The meeting adjourned on or about 4:30pm.

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