

## Tree Committee Meeting

October 17, 2019

3 p.m.

Conference Room, City Hall

Members present: Patrick Waldrop, Paul Fontenot, Greg Wittendorfer, Craig Tappan, Skip Jones, Joanne Hogan, and Richard Johnson. Absent: Jay Robinson. Gayle Fogarty took minutes.

Paul Fontenot called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. The minutes from the meeting held on August 29, 2019 were reviewed and approved, 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Skip Jones and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patrick Waldrop and unanimously carried.

Patrick Waldrop moved to recommend to the City Council the appointment of Stacey Howell to the Tree Committee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Skip Jones, motion passed unanimously. Gayle Fogarty was asked to send this motion to the City Clerk for the City Council to consider during the November 13, 2019 City Council meeting.

There was general discussion of Arbor Day 2020, Patrick Waldrop made a motion to declare Arbor Day as February 8, 2020 in the city of Fairhope, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Skip Jones, motion passed unanimously. Patrick commented that volunteers would be on hand to package the seedlings on February 7, 2020. Richard Johnson stated that he will contact the building department to get a list of new construction from January - October 2019, new construction will be considered for beautification awards.

There was general discussion among the committee members, dates for the upcoming year were set for January 9, 2020, April 16, 2020, July 16, 2020, and October 15, 2020. There was discussion of the Arbor Day poster contest. Patrick shared the names of the trees that will be given out during Arbor Day on February 8, 2020 with the committee: *Calycanthus floridus* (Sweetshrub), *Carya tomentosa* (Mockernut hickory), *Chionanthus virginicus* (Fringetree), *Cornus florida* (Dogwood), *Juniperus virginiana v silicicola* (Southern redcedar), *Pinus palustris* (Longleaf pine), *Ptelea trifoliata* (Hoptree), *Quercus stellata* (Post oak), *Taxodium ascendens* (Pondcypress), *Pistacia chinensis* (Chinese pistache). There was general discussion among the committee members of the trees selected for Arbor Day.

Richard Johnson stated that the Assistant Public Works Director will retire in May of 2020.

Paul Fontenot asked the committee their thoughts on updating the landscape ordinance to include the ordinance be part of the site plan review process, he suggested making a proposal to the City Council to possibly amend the landscape ordinance. Richard Johnson stated that he supports Paul's suggestion and stated that he may speak with the planning commission attorney, as another option maybe to update the subdivision regulation, as they include: Subdivisions, MOP and Site Plans. If the subdivision regulations are updated, then it would state that if a development is covered in the tree ordinance, then a developer will provide a certificate of improvement from the landscape design professional, as part of the final check off list for completion of a project. There was general discussion among the committee members. Richard stated that he will report back to the committee at a future meeting with an update.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.