

Tree Committee Meeting

January 13, 2022

10:03 a.m.

Delchamps Room

Members present: May Moss Parker, Craig Tappan, Skip Jones, Patrick Waldrop, Joanne Hogan, Paul Fontenot, Jamie Rollins. Absent: Corey Martin and Knox McMurphy. Gayle Fogarty took minutes. Guests: J.J. McCool of Wildlife Solutions and Lisa Todia

Paul Fontenot called the meeting to order. The minutes from the meeting held on December 15, 2021 were reviewed and approved, motioned by Skip Jones and 2nd by Patrick Waldrop and unanimously carried.

New Business:

There was general discussion of the date and time of Arbor Day for 2022, it was decided that February 12, 2022 at 10 a.m. will be the City of Fairhope Arbor Day celebration, on a motion made by Patrick Waldrop and 2nd by Joanne Hogan and unanimously carried.

There was general discussion among the committee regarding Arbor Day and the logistics of the day, Jo Hogan asked that a press release be done on the students that win the poster contest. There was also discussion of Arbor Day Award recipients, the committee selected three recipients on a motion made by Skip Jones, and 2nd by Patrick Waldrop and unanimously carried. The recipients selected were John Bethea, 76 S. Section Street for unique architectural structure to downtown streetscape; Moore Building, 152 N. Section Street for continuing exceptional architecture, planning and historical preservation by blending new construction within a phased development that is complementary to the historic downtown streetscape; and Five Gold Monkeys, 51 S. Section Street for complimentary renovation of existing commercial facade and adaptation and conversion of existing unaesthetic architecture. Jamie Rollins informed the committee that the City will take care of packaging the seedlings for Arbor Day. He added that he is in the process of ordering the seedlings needed for the event, and shared the tree list that will be ordered:

Acer rubrum (Red maple) BR
Carya glabra (Pignut hickory) BR
Celtis laevigata (Sugarberry) BR
Crataegus marshallii (Parsley haw) BR
Fagus grandifolia (American beech) BR
Quercus myrtifolia (Myrtle oak) BR
Rhus glabra (Smooth sumac) BR
Taxodium distichum (Baldcypress) BR
Viburnum dentatum (Arrowwood viburnum) BR

Jamie Rollins shared an update on the status of Knoll Park with the committee. Guest J.J. McCool of Wildlife Solutions shared information with the group that his crew can chemically treat the invasive exotic plants located in Knoll Park at no cost to the City of Fairhope. There was general discussion among the Tree Committee members and Jamie recommended moving forward with this offer from Wildlife Solutions, the committee agreed with Jamie's recommendation on a motion made 1st by Craig

Tappan and 2nd by Skip Jones, and unanimously carried. Patrick Waldrop stated that he would like Knoll Park to be burned before March 2022.

Paul Fontenot inquired about Mayor Sullivan and Hunter Simmons attending a future tree committee meeting to discuss the tree ordinance wording regarding planning and zoning.

Old Business:

Paul Fontenot stated that the live oak in front of the Lutheran Church doesn't look good and is severely stressed and feels it is a safety hazard. Jamie Rollins suggested a risk assessment be completed, Paul F. added that some mitigation has been done on the tree and thinks it is too late and now safety is a concern. Jamie made a recommendation to the committee to have a risk assessment completed, before the City takes any action, a motion was made by Patrick Waldrop to accept Jamie's recommendation and 2nd by Joanne Hogan, and unanimously carried.

The committee discussed future meeting dates for 2022, it was determined that the dates would be: April 14, August 18 and November 10, all the meetings will be held in the Delchamps room and will begin at 10 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.