

Terrebonne Parish Tree Board  
Meeting Minutes  
July 18, 2013

8026 Main Street, Sixth Floor Meeting Room  
Houma, LA 70360

Present

- Corey Messina
- Bruce Verdun
- Sandy Ostheimer
- Teri Ferguson
- JoAnn Kirkpatrick
- Barton Joffrion
- Trudy Hebert
- Laura Browning
  
- David Luke, TPCG Advisor
- Chris Pulaski, TPCG Sr. Planner

Guests:

- Diana Theriot
- Linda Henderson, TPCG

The meeting was called to order at 11:50a.m. by Sandy Ostheimer, Vice Chair. Sandy Ostheimer led the invocation. Special guests, Linda Henderson and Diane Theriot, were introduced.

1. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes of the June 18, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Teri Ferguson to accept as read, second by Trudy Hebert. Motion passed. Laura A. Browning entered the meeting shortly after.
2. **Special orders:** Chris Pulaski reviewed the need for completion of the Ethics training as soon as possible. He did not have the certificates for JoAnn Kirkpatrick and Sandy Ostheimer.
3. **Reports:**
  - a. *Chair's Report*- Laura Browning distributed copies of the report.
  - b. *Tree Ordinance*- Chris Pulaski distributed copies of the entire ordinance. Key items were reviewed, stormwater run-off, clear-cutting of trees, preservation of trees. It was agreed upon that the whole board will review the entire ordinance in an extended time meeting on August 20, 2013.
  - c. *Publications*- Trudy Hebert discussed the concept of the "Notable Tree Brochure" to in order to seek funding for design purposes. The Tree Board has a budget of \$7000 for the project. Hebert suggested that a coordinating PDF be placed on the TPCG-Tree Board web page.
  - d. *Finance Report* – Funds as of this date - \$10,487.91
4. **Old Business**
  - a. *Removal of tree*- David Luke, Vegetation Superintendent, TPCG Public Works, Adviser, reviewed the request forwarded to the Tree Board to assess if a large Sycamore tree on a public right-of-way property near 503 Roselawn Ave. presented a risk to the community. Board members Browning, Joffrion, Voisin, and Ostheimer observed the tree and discussed their

observations. A motion by Sandy Ostheimer stated that the Terrebonne Parish Tree Board will not recommend the removal of the tree until which time the tree shows signs of disease, distress or interference with the public right-of-way. Second by JoAnn Kirkpatrick. Motion carried. Letters will be sent to Councilman John Navy and the individual who made the original request for removal.

- b. *Vacancy*- Mrs. Diane Theriot addressed the Board about her interest in applying for the vacancy.
- c. *Strategic Planning*- Laura Browning distributed a copy of the draft of the Strategic Plan. The document will be reviewed at a later meeting. In discussion, the Board acknowledged that a budget must be presented and in planning the budget, the Board must be cognizant of placing unfunded requests to departments within Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government.
- d. *Community Outreach*- Voice of the Wetlands- An application for participation has been filed with the Voice of the Wetlands for the October festival.

#### 5. **New Business**

- a. Chris discussed Bayou Walk Landscape Construction Drawing. Trudy Hebert made a motion to submit a resolution from the Tree Board to the Terrebonne Parish Council to solicit a proposal from the Dana Brown firm for developing the plans for the Bayou Walk Landscape construction drawing, with a budget not to exceed \$7,400.00. Second by Sandy Ostheimer. In the plan development, \$4,000.00 would be allocated for the plan and \$3,400.00 for construction. Phase 1 – Landscape construction drawing. Phase 2 would combine Waterlife parking with limestone parking of the recently acquired Parking lot.
- b. In other discussions, there are several trees at various locations that will need to be replaced. At South Hollywood, 2 trees are missing and 3 trees are dead. At the Waterlife museum, the damaged tree has been removed. The recommendation was made to plant green ash held in reserve at the Waterlife Museum. Al Badeaux, Iberia Bank, contacted Chris Pulaski about an opportunity to relocate several trees in anticipation of the banking location change. Laura Browning agreed to contact him about a timeline and size of the trees.

#### 6. **Announcements**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 20, 2013 and will be an extended meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by,

Barton Joffrion, Secretary

