

Terrebonne Parish Tree Board

Minutes July 15, 2014



Opening

The regular meeting of the Terrebonne Parish Tree Board was called to order at 11:30 AM on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 in the conference room on the sixth floor of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Building by Laura Browning, Chair at 11:30am. Sandy Ostheimer offered an Invocation.

Present:

- Laura Browning – Chair
- Barton Joffrion
- Diane Theriot
- Trudy Hebert
- Monica Harris
- Sandy Ostheimer
- Roger Dale Shelton
- Corey Messina

Chris Pulaski, Sr. Planner, TPCG, Liaison

David Luke, TPCG, Adviser

Absent: Joann Kirkpatrick

Approval of the minutes from June 17, 2014.

Sandy Ostheimer, motion to approve minutes as presented, second by Monica Harris. Motion carried. Motion was made by Sandy Ostheimer to accept the minutes as presented with an amendment for a spelling error, second by Trudy. The motion was carried.

Reports of Officers, Projects and Committees

- **Parish Adviser Update-** Chris Pulaski

Chris gave a report about Apache Tree Foundation application. A request for 1,000 trees was made and in the grant, he asked for container trees and seedlings. Chris discussed that the 2013 annual report was sent to administration and Parish President Claudet, said it looked good. Laura and Chris will meet with him to discuss further. Chris indicated that trees were staked on Hwy 311. The oaks will be replaced in the fall. South Hollywood Road trees will be taken out and a design plan will be worked up.

A request for an adhoc committee to assist with the design was made. Sandy, Monica and Diane volunteered for the project. Chris will be working with the committee.

Chris discussed Ellender Parking Lot. The Tree Board will contract with Dana Brown to do landscape plans. The Board discussed the Skateboard Park scheduled in light of the planned expenditures for trees.

- **Financial Report** -The report prepared by Sonja Labat was reviewed and future expenditures were discussed.
- **Publications Report**- Trudy Hebert reviewed the status of the publications being printed by the Tree Board for use in community events. She also reviewed the status of the Prominent Trees project.
- **Chair's Report**-Laura Browning reviewed the Chair's report for July.

Under **old business**, a discussion was held on the request by the Civic Center to provide support for replacing dead or damaged trees, which had been planted to the rear of the property to act as sight and sound barrier. Monica Harrison researched some possibilities for replacing the trees and recommended Japanese Cedars and Yaupon Hollies. The Board took no action.

Next under old business was the discussion of the request to approval the removal of trees and overgrowth from the Terrebonne Parish Coroner's Office. The Vegetation Department of TPCG will do the work. Motion by Sandy Ostheimer to remove the trees. Second. The motion was carried unanimously. Next under old business, was the discussion of the removal of dead, diseased, damaged or dying trees from the Houma Airbase. Motion by Trudy to remove, second. The motion was carried unanimously.

David Luke presented the Board with an information only item. David discussed tree-planting request by Steven Chaisson at 507 Crescent Blvd. He wants to plant an Ohio Buckeye in right of way. Motion by Barton to recommend that Mr. Luke advise the resident of right-of-way restrictions. Second by Roger. The motion was carried unanimously.

In the Board member comments section, Sandy Ostheimer reminded the Board of the upcoming Master Gardeners class beginning in January 2015. Roger indicated that TARC took out a large tree on their property, which was damaged, and dying. Corey reflected on a recent experience of a very large crepe myrtle, which had been planted too closely to the perimeter of a home and was now damaging the foundation. It was a good reminder of planting best practices. Trudy invited the group to the Meaningful Minds Program on July 23, 2014 at Library from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Diane Theriot. The next meeting will be August 18, 2014.

Submitted by

Barton Joffrion