Tree Board Minutes of November 17, 2020 meeting at Folklife Museum, 317 Goode St., Houma.

Officers: Jason Serrano, chair; Diane Theriot, vice-chair, Monica Harris, secretary; Members: Barton Joffrion, Mike Niette, Pat Gordon. Parish advisors: Linda Henderson, David Luke, and Chris Pulaski.

Meeting was called to order by Jason Serrano at 11:43. Jason Serrano, Monica Harris, Barton Joffrion, and Diane Theriot were present. Parish representatives Chris Pulaski and David Luke were present. QUORUM MET.

Motion to accept October minutes was made by Barton Joffrion and 2nd by Diane Theriot.

Financial report -- by Melissa Bourgeois. We have $16,654.10 available. Expenditures to date for the year are $2479.90. The May 4 expenditure of $1463.41 was to Stump Out for clearing the corner of Grand Calliou.

OLD BUSINESS

Earmarked project updates:

East Tunnel--

Phase 1  Garnier should be planting at Grand Calliou by the end of the month.

Phase 2  No report.

Courthouse Oaks—Chris will prepare new quotes after reviewing the new scope of the project with Jason.

Dularge overpass—Still waiting for vegetation update

Tree Award Committee -- Chris and Jason will meet to discuss suggested trees and sites for donated trees. They will work with the IT staff to develop brochures and information to encourage donations by the public. Chris said shade trees are needed in the parking areas. Some types of trees, e.g. crape myrtles and pear trees will not be allowed in the parking lot.

ARBOR DAY Tree give-away.  We will need to find a new location and plan to distribute trees as a no-contact drive-through. We will limit the variety of trees to 5 or 6 and create a menu with descriptions and photos for people to choose. We will need volunteers to put trees into cars. Master Gardeners are not meeting so we will need to notify them and ask for volunteers.

Monica will contact Civic Center staff for suggestions on how to do a drive-thru, as they do with Covid testing and food distribution.
Sybil Guidry’s Tree -- Barton will be seeing Bob Thibodaux and discuss the tree to be planted in her honor. Legion Park may not be a good site for an oak tree so we may need to find another location. The sports park gets good visibility, and the area around the twin span is an option.

NEW BUSINESS

Jason will post the agenda and minutes on the webpage 48 hours before meetings.

The next meeting will be Dec. 15 at the Waterlife Museum.

Motion to adjourn was made by Monica Harris and seconded by Diane Theriot. Adjourned at 12:26.

Monica Harris, secretary