

TREE BOARD/BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH, FLORIDA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015

7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2014 MEETING
- V. INTRODUCTIONS
 - A. New Board/Committee Member, Ms. Joan Muller
 - B. New Events Coordinator, Ms. Hala Laquidara
- VI. TREE BOARD MATTERS
 - A. Discussion of Preparations for Arbor Day 2015
 - B. Update on Implementing Urban Forestry Grant
 - C. Other Tree Board Matters
- VII. BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MATTERS
 - A. Continuation of Discussion to Beautify Bike Paths
 - B. Other Beautification Advisory Committee Matters
- VIII. SCHEDULING DATE FOR NEXT MEETING
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ann Palmquist, Chairman
Linda Avery, Vice Chairman
Tanya Frantzen
LeaAnn Lombardi
Joan Muller
Mary Hutchinson
Craig Thomson
Jeanette Smith (Alternate)

FROM: Max Royle, City Manager 

DATE: January 2, 2015

SUBJECT: Information for Your January 14th Meeting

1 Introductions

You have a new member, Ms. Joan Muller, whom you've not yet met. Also, we want you to meet Ms. Hala Laquidara, the City's new Events Coordinator. She'll be helping you with planning and presenting the Arbor Day event.

2 Tree Board Matters

A Discussion of Preparations for Arbor Day 2015

One of the first decisions you need to make concerning Arbor Day is when to hold it. At your last meeting, you agreed not to schedule a date until the local teachers at the schools which participate in the poster and poetry contests have been contacted concerning the best date that will fit their calendar. You may have the information you need, so that you can schedule a date at your January 14th meeting.

B Update on Implementing the Urban Forestry Grant

Mr. Howell or Mr. Gatchell can provide the update.

3 Beautification Advisory Committee Matters

A. Continuation of Discussion to Beautify Bike Paths

You discussed this at your December 11th meeting, when you approved the planting locations that Ms. Lombardi showed on a sketch that she provided. You agreed to continue the discussion concerning the artwork and benches to a later date. Perhaps your January meeting will be when you want to resume your discussion.

4 Scheduling Date for Your Next Meeting

There are four Tuesdays in February. The two Tuesdays when the room is available for your meeting are February 3rd and the 24th.

Minutes of the TREE BOARD/BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING of THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014, held at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Meeting Room at City Hall, 2200 State Road A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, Florida, 32080.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ann Palmquist called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Ann Palmquist, Vice-Chairman Linda Avery, Tanya Frantzen, LeaAnn Lombardi, Mary Beth Hutchinson, Craig Thomson, Senior Alternate Jeanette Smith, Building Official Gary Larson, City Manager Max Royle, Public Works Director Joe Howell, Recording Secretary Bonnie Miller.

Absent: Joan Muller.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF TREE BOARD/BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

Chairman Palmquist **MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TREE BOARD/BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2014.** The motion was seconded by Ms. Lombardi and passed 7-0 by unanimous voice-vote.

V. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD/COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Thomson said he was an original member of the Board, lives near the beach and enjoys it, and is an architect and a conscientious citizen.

Ms. Hutchinson said she lives on Beach Street and is glad to be a Board member.

Mr. Royle said another new member, Joan Muller, wasn't able to be here tonight.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Planning and Zoning Board's recommendation regarding the A1A Beach Boulevard Corridor Vision Plan

Mr. Larson said the City Commission directed the Planning and Zoning Board to

review the City's A1A Beach Boulevard Corridor Vision Plan to make recommendations on any feasible projects in it that could be done. As most of what can be done per the Vision Plan has been implemented to date, except for a few landscaping projects along the Boulevard, the Planning and Zoning Board recommended the City Commission allocate funding for landscaping projects that fulfill the goals of the Vision Plan, starting with specific projects proposed for the intersections of A and F Streets and the Boulevard. He briefly outlined and summarized these projects and asked for the Board's recommendations.

Ms. Lombardi MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COMMISSION ALLOCATE FUNDING FOR THE LANDSCAPING PROJECTS PRESENTED BY MR. LARSON FOR THE BOULEVARD AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF A AND F STREETS, WITH THE RECOMMENDATION TO USE DRIP IRRIGATION AND/OR OTHER WATER CONSERVATION IRRIGATION IN THEIR IMPLEMENTATION.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomson and passed 7-0 by unanimous voice-vote

B. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Dr. Sandy Bond and Mr. Jesse Howley presented the Sustainable Communities Program from Audubon International, a non-profit environmental organization whose mission is to deliver high-quality environmental education and facilitate the sustainable management of land, water, wildlife, and other natural resources in all places people live, work, and play. With the goal of improving the environment, economy, and society, the program consists of three stages, starting with the formation of a steering committee to establish a baseline assessment of the community pertaining to environment, quality of life, and economic viability. Stage two focuses on sustainability planning with the creation of a policy statement, media communications and community meetings, and establishment of timelines and indications for a long-term strategic plan. Stage three focuses on implementing the strategic plan and accomplishing its goals.

Mr. Thomson MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COMMISSION MOVE FORWARD WITH THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hutchinson and passed 7-0 by unanimous voice-vote.

VII. TREE BOARD MATTERS

A. Update on Urban Forestry Grant

Mr. Howell said the City was successful in its recent application for an \$8,400 urban forestry grant. They've started shopping for the trees, which will be mostly crepe myrtles and little gem magnolias, to be purchased with this grant money. This is a matching grant which the City will match largely by providing in-kind services to install and establish the trees. The grant also has a public educational component that includes a tree-planting demonstration, mostly likely to be conducted by Master Arborist Chuck Lippi, which will be photographed and video-taped for broadcast on the City's government television channel. As Mr. Lippi has advised the best time for tree-planting is during the cooler months, they're targeting these events to be scheduled in late winter/early spring of 2015.

B. Discussion of Preparations for Arbor Day 2015

The Board agreed to not schedule a date for Arbor Day 2015 until the teachers in local schools participating in the annual poster and poetry contests are contacted to see what dates will best fit the school calendar schedule, and also agreed to continue discussion of preparations for Arbor Day 2015 until its next meeting.

VIII. BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MATTERS

A. Continuation of Discussion to Beautify Bike Paths

Ms. Lombardi said the Committee has agreed on the concept of beautifying the two bike path areas along 2nd Avenue, between 7th and 8th Streets and 10th and 11th Streets west of A1A Beach Boulevard as its 2015 beautification project, and a brief sketch has been drawn of what could be done. The next step is to get ideas from the Committee as to location and what type of plantings they'd like to put in these areas, and once this has been decided, she and Mr. Howell can walk the bike paths to see what will fit where. She'd also like the Committee to decide if they'd like to incorporate artwork, benches, etc. along the bike paths.

Ms. Frantzen said she thought they had already determined that they wanted to include artwork and benches for seating, and possibly fitness stations.

Ms. Lombardi said she'd like to suggest having benches available along the paths which children can paint or draw on with chalk, without getting into trouble for putting graffiti on public property. This would provide an outlet for children and get more people out onto the bike paths and engaged in nature.

Ms. Avery MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PLANTING LOCATIONS AS SHOWN ON THE SKETCH SUBMITTED BY MS. LOMBARDI FOR THE BEAUTIFICATION OF THE 2ND AVENUE BIKE PATHS, AND CONTINUE DISCUSSION ON LOCATIONS FOR ARTWORK AND BENCHES AT A LATER DATE. The mo-

tion was seconded by Ms. Frantzen and passed 5-1 by roll-call vote

Ms. Lombardi	Yes
Ms. Smith	Yes
Mr. Thomson	Yes
Ms. Palmquist	No
Ms. Avery	Yes
Ms. Frantzen	Yes

[Recording Secretary's Note: Ms. Hutchinson abstained from voting on this issue as she said she wasn't familiar with the proposed bike path beautification plan.]

B. Review of List of Nominees for 2015 Beautification Awards

The Committee voted, by majority oral consensus, to award 11 Surfcrest Street winner of the best Florida-friendly residential property, and Salt Life Restaurant, 321 A1A Beach Boulevard, winner of best Florida-friendly commercial property, for the 2015 Beautification Awards. The Committee also agreed to give the winners a \$25.00 gift certificate from an organic nursery, and recognize all other nominees as a runner-up/honorable mention with a certificate of participation.

C. Discussion of Holiday Lighting Awards

The Committee voted by majority oral consensus to award Salt Life Restaurant, 321 A1A Beach Boulevard, as the best commercial property for the 2014 Holiday Lighting Awards, and agreed to not pick winners in the best residential or best neighborhood/ subdivision entrance categories, but to recognize all nominees with a letter or certificate of participation. The Committee also voted 7-0 by unanimous voice-vote to eliminate the Holiday Lighting Awards in the future.

IX. SCHEDULING DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The Tree Board/Beautification Advisory Committee agreed to hold its next meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Chairman

ATTEST:

City Manager