

**Minutes of the TREE BOARD/BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING of WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015, 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, Mary Beth Hutchinson, LeaAnn Lombardi, Joan Muller, Craig Thomson, Senior Alternate Jeanette Smith, City Manager Max Royle, Public Works Director Joe Howell, Assistant Public Works Director Ken Gatchell Recording Secretary April Haskins.

Absent Tanya Frantzen.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF TREE BOARD/BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 2014**

Chairman Palmquist **MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TREE BOARD/BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014.**

The motion was seconded by Ms. Lombardi and passed 7-0 by unanimous voice-vote.

**V. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD/COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**A. Introduction of New Board/Committee Member Ms. Joan Muller**

Ms. Joan Muller said she came to St Augustine Beach 13 years ago as a snowbird, knew she wanted to relocate here, and has since purchased a home at Makarios Carriage Homes, where she serves as chairman for the Landscape Committee. She's also been a member of the St. Augustine Beach Community Garden for two years, is a licensed realtor associated with Sunshine Realty, an office manager for her son's business, and said she's looking forward to serving on the Beautification Committee.

**B. Introduction of New Events Coordinator Ms. Hala Laquidara**

Ms. Hala Laquidara introduced herself and spoke to the Board specifically regarding how she could be of help to them. Ms. Laquidara said she came here from Flagler County and has done work with students to beautify Princess Place, and has also written and been awarded grants.

## **VI. TREE BOARD MATTERS**

Board member Craig Thomson requested the following item be added to the agenda.

### **A. Sustainable Communities Program**

Dr. Sandy Bond, and a member of St. Augustine Livability and Sustainability Alliance (SALSA), 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: 1) The formation of a steering committee to establish a baseline assessment of the community pertaining to environment, quality of life, and economic viability; 2) Sustainability planning consisting of the creation of a policy statement, media communications and community meetings, and establishment of timelines and indications for a long-term strategic plan; 3) Implementation of the strategic plan and accomplishment of its goals. As the Board members agreed unanimously they did not have enough information to make a recommendation to the City Commission pertaining to this program at this time, it was agreed Mr. Thomson would gather additional information to bring back to the Board for discussion at the Board's March meeting.

### **B. Discussion of Preparations for Arbor Day 2015**

The Board agreed unanimously to hold Arbor Day 2015 on Friday, April 17, 2015, at City Hall, and also agreed Ms. Avery would work with Ms. Laquidara to decide on a theme and contact local schools for Arbor Day activities.

### **C. Update on Urban Forestry Grant**

Mr. Howell said the Public Works Department has recently ordered 71 crepe myrtles, in a variety of colors, in 30-gallon pots, to be planted in various locations previously submitted to the Board. He's also trying to contact Mr. Chuck Lippi regarding the educational portion of the grant.

**D. Other Tree Board Matters**

There were no additional matters to discuss

**VII. BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MATTERS**

**A. Continuation of Discussion to Beautify Bike Paths**

The Board discussed artwork and hardscape for the beautification of the bike paths. Mr. Thomson suggested perhaps the City could place informational and educational signs along the bike paths.

Ms Palmquist **MADE A MOTION TO HAVE SIGNS PUT ALONG THE BIKE PATHS TO IDENTIFY NATURE OR PLANTS AND ANIMALS IN STRATEGIC PLACES ALONG THE PATHS.** The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomson and passed 7-0 by unanimous roll call vote.

**B. Other Beautification Advisory Committee Matters**

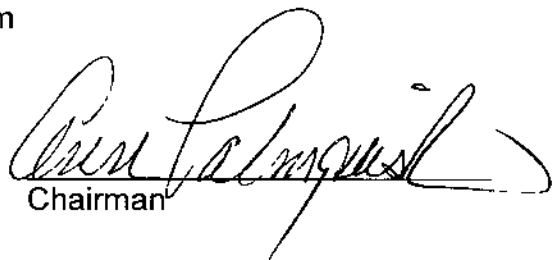
There were no additional matters to discuss

**VII. SCHEDULING DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

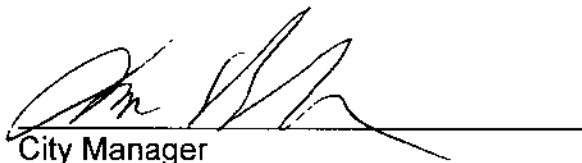
The Tree Board/Beautification Advisory Committee agreed to hold its next meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9 00 p m

  
Chairman

ATTEST.

  
City Manager