

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting **of Windermere Tree Board** **July 17, 2013**

Mission Statement: Augment community awareness of our Urban Forest, provide education regarding the benefits of trees and a commitment to protect, preserve and proliferate our community's Urban Forest.

Call To Order

Chairman Theresa Schretzmann-Myers called the regular public meeting of the Windermere Tree Board to order in the Windermere Public Library, 520 Main Street, Windermere, FL 34786, at 7:00 p.m. on July 17, 2013.

Welcome-The Chairman welcomed members of the Committee.

Attendance

Tree Board Members present at the meeting were: Theresa Schretzmann-Myers, Joan Foglia, Susan Carter, Janet Sgamma, Jackie Rapport and Town Manager Robert Smith.

- **Announcements** – Thank you to Windermere Historical Board and Windermere Tree Board who completed the clean-up and restoration pruning of historic Orange Grove at 1887 Schoolhouse National Register Historic Site on July 13, and July 17, 2013.

Minutes Approval

There was no meeting in June due to Tree Board Committee members being out of town for vacation and no quorum so no June minutes were approved pending corrections and filed electronically to rsmith@town.windermere.fl.us, aclick@town.windermere.fl.us, dburkhalter@town.windermere.fl.us, jhefeli@town.windermere.fl.us

Business

Report-1887 Historic Schoolhouse Site Volunteer Clean-Up and Restoration

-Thirteen volunteers from Windermere Historical Board & Tree Board removed 1 ton of exotic invasive vines and brush from 1887 Historic Schoolhouse Site, Saturday, July 13, 2013, 8am-3:30pm. On July 17, 2013, three volunteers, Theresa Schretzmann-Myers, Joan Foglia and John Armstrong completed restoration pruning on 25 historic citrus, mango and avocado trees using sterilized pruning saws and pruners. Tools, gloves, trees, water, snacks and food were supplied to volunteers by Windermere Tree Board. Debris pile is to be picked up by Waste Pro as directed by Manager Robert Smith.

-Volunteer Time Sheets will be sent to Robert Smith for Tree City USA Application. Total Volunteer Hours = 81.83 Hours for 1887 Schoolhouse project.

-Food was supplied to volunteers on workday by Tree Board Chairman Schretzmann-Myers. A motion was made by Susan Carter and seconded by Jackie Rapport to approve reimbursement for food to Chairman. Motion passed. A recommendation was made to Town Manager Robert Smith to approve reimbursement.

-Historic Camellias and Native Trees need to be installed after irrigation is installed as per Town charette. Another workday will be organized to complete that work.

-A request for 300 lbs. of 6-6-6 Organic Citrus Fertilizer to implement fertilization program around root zones of historic grove trees was given to Town Manager Robert Smith. A purchase order for fertilizer needs to be completed.

-Joan Foglia discussed ways to get more cooperation with committees such as Parks and Recreation and recruitment of additional Towns people to volunteer on committees and Town workday projects. Articles in Town newsletter and Town website, local Media and creating a Facebook Page were proposed. Press Releases are to be drafted for more

involvement in future events and projects. Attendance at other committee meetings to collaborate was also suggested.

Recommendations-Professional Due Diligence for Trees at 1887 Schoolhouse National Register Historic Site
-ISA Certified Master Arborist Eric Engstrom's report for removal of two cavitated Laurel Oaks over 1887 Schoolhouse that are hazardous trees was discussed. It was the recommendation of the Tree Board that this report be forwarded to the Historical Board and Town Council for their Agenda, discussion and a decision.

Attendance Receipts Trees Florida Conference

Theresa Schretzmann-Myers attended Trees Florida Conference 2013 in Fort Lauderdale for continuing education on arboriculture, latest pruning techniques, tree diseases, tree pest education, tree safety and tree law. The Chairman turned receipts from Trees Florida Conference into Treasurer Joan Foglia for reimbursement. A motion was made by Susan Carter and seconded by Jackie Rapport that the Chairman be reimbursed for registration, travel and lodging to attend Trees Florida Conference. Motion passed.

Tree Board Budget

Treasurer Joan Foglia presented the itemized Tree Board budget for 2013-2014 for a total of \$6,037.96.

Capital Improvement Project-

Joan Foglia discussed the feasibility of Capital Improvement projects for the three most pressing project needs for Windermere's Urban Forest. These capital improvements would be eligible for 50-50 Urban Forestry matching grant funding with a match from the Town of Windermere. The priorities were set as follows:

- 1) Eradication of Brazilian Pepper and other exotic invasive trees and replanting with Florida native trees along Maguire Road-Main Street right-of-way on NW side of pedestrian bridge and Traffic Bridge.
- 2) Eradication of Brazilian Pepper and other exotic invasive trees around pond and abutting NW fence line and pedestrian walk near Windermere Elementary School.
- 3) Eradication of Brazilian Pepper and exotic invasive trees along perimeter of Crescent Lake front at Butler Bay Park and replanting with Florida Native Trees.

After discussion with Town Manager and Town Budget Committee it was determined there are no matching funds available from the Town at this time to pursue 50-50 Urban Forestry matching grants for completion of these projects. Projects were tabled for further action pending matching funds from Town in future.

Tree Ordinance

Work is being continued on draft Tree Ordinance. It was noted that special attention should be paid to exemptions for nurseries and agricultural zoned properties.

Action Items to Be Completed

1. Work day to complete installation of historic Camellias, Citrus Trees and Florida Native trees as per Town charette for 1887 Historic Schoolhouse plan.
2. Organic Citrus Fertilizer 6-6-6 needs to be ordered and placed around root zones of historic Orange Trees.
3. Report from ISA Certified Master Arborist Eric Engstrom forwarded to Historic Board and Town Council for Agenda Item.
4. Receipts for 1887 Schoolhouse workday volunteer food and Trees Florida Conference be processed for reimbursement.
5. Finish work on Tree Ordinance.

Next Meeting

Next meeting scheduled for 3rd Thursday or 5th Thursday pending conflicts with Windermere, Gotha, Olympia Schools Meet the Teacher dates.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. I hereby certify these are the minutes of the Windermere Tree Board as recorded.

THERESA SCHRETZMANN-MYERS

Chairman-Windermere Tree Board

:tsm

July 17, 2013

Date