

TOWN OF WINDERMERE

TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 2019

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. Beautification of our Windermere Parks and Recreation Areas.

Tree Board Members: Frank Krens (Vice Chair and Acting Secretary), Susan Norris-Carter, Jacqueline Rapport, (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary positions were vacant)

Town Manager: Robert Smith

Town Liaison: Chris Sapp

CALL TO ORDER: Town Manager, Robert Smith called the special meeting of the WTB to order at 3:00pm at Windermere Town Hall. The meeting was attended by all three Tree Board members:

- Frank Krens, Vice Chair and acting Secretary
- Jackie Rapport
- Susan Carter

Town Manager, Robert Smith presided over the meeting. Town Council liaison, Chris Sapp participated.

Town Council member, Liz Andert, prior WTB Chair Theresa Myers, and Town residents Angela Withers, Brandi Haines also attended.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Theresa Myers stated her concern that the Tree Board maintain a strong position in its role of protecting the trees.

Angela Withers stated that the Town owes Theresa Myers a large debt for her service on the Tree Board, that proper procedures may not have been followed in obtaining Theresa's resignation, and that sometimes a change in leadership is needed.

Brandi Haines stated that she believes that proper procedures may not have been followed and stated her opinion that the Tree Board and Parks and Recreation Committee have very different roles and should not be combined.

Town Council member, Liz Andert, suggested that time frames be assigned to certain items such as Tree Board recruiting efforts.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Town Manager Robert Smith to discuss restructure**

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Town Manager, Robert Smith, provided copies of the Tree Board Resignation Request to Theresa Myers and Theresa Myers's resignation letter.

Robert Smith stated that discussions regarding potential merging of the Tree Board and the Parks and Recreation Committee or otherwise combining responsibilities of the two entities were just that, that there are no current plans or actions in that regard, and that he expects the Tree Board to continue as a separate entity.

2. Nominations for Officers

Jackie Rapport nominated Susan Carter as Chair. There were no other nominations. The Board voted 3/0 in favor.

Jackie Rapport nominated Frank Krens as Secretary. There were no other nominations. The Board voted 3/0 in favor.

No other officers were elected. Robert Smith noted that the WTB Treasurer responsibilities can be provided by Town administration and Board members noted that they preferred that.

Robert Smith recommended that the Board brainstorm goals and objectives for the upcoming year and noted revision of the Tree Ordinance, and review of the Town Square landscaping plan as priority items to pursue. Town Council liaison, Chris Sapp reiterated the discussions held at the March WTB meeting regarding replacement of the large Laurel Oak at the SE corner of Town Hall with a Fringe or other decorative tree and planting of four trees of 7- to 8-inch diameter on Town property.

Meeting time for future regular meetings was discussed and the Board voted 3/0 to change the meeting time to 6:00pm.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30pm

- **Next Regular Meeting Thursday - April 18, 2019 at 6:00pm**