

MINUTES - Approved

Windermere Tree Board May 20, 2021

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. Beautify our Windermere Parks and Recreation Areas.

Tree Board Members: Susan Carter (Chairman), Frank Krens (Recording Sec.), Jacqueline Rapport, Leslie Brabec, Pamela Schrimsher
Town Liaison: Bill Martini

1. **Call To Order** - Chairman Susan Carter called the regular meeting of the WTB, as an in-person meeting, with a quorum present at 10:08 am in the Town Hall on May 20, 2021.

Tree Board Members present were: Susan Carter, Jackie Rapport, Leslie Brabec, Pamela Schrimsher, and Frank Krens. Town Council liaison Bill Martini, Public Works Director Tonya Elliott-Moore, and Public Works Foreman Travis Mathias were present.

2. **Public Comment** - None

3. **Approval of Minutes** – Jackie Rapport made a motion to approve the April 2021 Minutes as written, Leslie Brabec seconded, and they were approved 5/0.

4. **Old Business**

- a. **Central Park: Progress** – Chairman Susan Carter said that all trees that needed it were staked. One more tree, a large tabebuia, should arrive in about a week. There was discussion about the advantage of identifying trees with tags and Pam Schrimsher said she would check with Leu Gardens on their process. Susan also:
 - provided an update on the cost of the project:
 - o **\$2170.00** for initial purchase of trees for Central Park,
 - o **\$1330.22** total for: tabebuia, camellias, & mulch (Mulch \$193.70, marking paint \$38.22), tree diapers \$520.88, purple tabebuia \$325.00, camellias & naxis \$183.50, stakes & topsoil \$68.92),
 - o **\$425** for additional trees,
 - noted that the Windermere Brewery donated \$125 to pay for a tree to be planted in a suitable location,
 - stated that the “Memorial Tree” that had been planted in Central Park will be moved to a better location, at the request of the Park and Recreation Committee,
 - stated that Angela Withers is watering the oak planted at the SW corner of 7th and Dirt Main.
- b. **“City Nature Challenge Orlando Metro”** – Susan Carter and others noted that the project was successful, but many experienced troubles uploading photos.

5. **New Business**

- a. **500 Block Project: understanding what is at stake** – Susan Carter provided copies of the Project Survey dated 3/17/21 and noted that the Town of Windermere will hold an informational Workshop via Zoom on Wednesday May 26, 2021 at 6pm. She also noted that the project will include the services of a respected arborist and that the project has committed to follow the appropriate ANSI A300 standards, as required by municipal codes, to protect the trees that are to be saved.

Town Council liaison Bill Martini stated several concerns: that some loss of large trees will be unavoidable, and that the Town of Windermere should have its own arborist involved to protect our interests. He expressed concern that the project had presented an obsolete survey, from 2006 to the DRB when a more recent survey, from November 2020 was available.

- b. **Rules on tree removals, cypress trees in or near lake** – There was discussion about the limitations of the existing means of controlling and mitigating unnecessary removal of trees. Susan provided the following link to an example of an Urban Forest Management Plan, which provides information on the value of an urban forests and guidance on maintaining it:

<https://cityofwinterpark.org/departments/parks-recreation/urban-forestry/>

6. **Adjourn** – Jackie Rapport made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Frank Krens seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.