



WINDERMERE TREE BOARD

Chair: Susan Carter

Secretary: Frank Krens

Treasurer: Pamela Schrimsher

Jackie Rapport

Leslie Brabec

Council Liaison: Bill Martini

Agenda

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January 19, 2023

0:00 PM

**PARKING LOT AT THE CORNER OF W 5TH AVE & FOREST ST
WINDERMERE, FL 34786**

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS

PLEASE NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH F.S. 286.26: Person with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any such proceedings should contact the Office of the Clerk at least 48 hours beforehand at (407) 876-2563.

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2005-12 adopted on December 13, 2005, the following Civility Code shall govern all proceedings before the Town of Windermere Windermere Tree Board:

1. All electronic devices, including cell phones and pagers, shall be either turned off or otherwise silenced.
2. Prolonged conversation shall be conducted outside Council meeting hall.
3. Whistling, heckling, gesturing, loud conversations, or other disruptive behavior is prohibited.
4. Only those individuals who have signed the speaker list and/or/who have been recognized by the Mayor (or Chair) may address comments to the Council.
5. Comments at public hearings shall be limited to the subject being considered by the Council
6. Comments at Open Forums shall be directed to Town issues.
7. All public comments shall avoid personal attacks and abusive language
8. No person attending a Windermere Tree Board meeting is to harass, annoy, or otherwise disturb any other person in the room.

Any member of the public whose behavior is disruptive and violates the Town of Windermere Civility Code is subject to removal from the Windermere Tree Board meeting by an officer and such other actions as may be appropriate. PLEASE NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH F.S. 286.0105: Any person who desires to appeal any decision at this meeting will need a record of this proceeding. For this, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of such proceeding is made which includes the

AGENDA

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, and beautification of our Windermere Parks and Recreation Areas.

1. THE MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR

2. OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT (3-Minute Limit)

3. OLD BUSINESS

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Minutes

i. Windermere Tree Board Meeting Minutes: December 15, 2022 (Attachment - Board Option)

b. Tree Giveaway 2023

i. Logistics

5. ADJOURN

MINUTES - DRAFT

Windermere Tree Board **December 15, 2022**

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. THE MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER

Tree Board Chairman Susan Carter called the meeting to order at 3:04pm in the Windermere Town Hall at 520 Main Street, Windermere, FL 34786. The requirement for a quorum was met.

Participants were:

- **Tree Board** – Susan Carter, Leslie Brabec, Jackie Rapport, Pamela Schrimsher, and Frank Krens
- **Town Council** - liaison Bill Martini
- **TOW Public Works** – Travis Mathias
- **TOW Engineering** – John Fitzgibbon
- **Public** – Nicolas Daurio

2. OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT – Local resident Nicolas Daurio commended the WTB on our efforts and recommended that we consider focusing more on medicinal and fruit trees for the tree giveaway. Mr. Daurio is a recent graduate in horticulture and is active in local efforts to promote planting projects and education. He provided a handout listing the benefits of certain native and non-native fruit/medicinal trees and local nurseries that provide them.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. January 2023 Tree Giveaway

Trees and Pricing – WTB Chair Susan Carter said that she is continuing to work pricing and availability based on discussions at the November meeting. She is focusing more on smaller trees that cost less, are easier to handle, and that tend to get established and grow more reliably than the larger trees we have bought in the past.

Leslie Brabec offered to provide a number of very small trees that she has at her home as an addition to the planned giveaway.

b. Preliminary Discussion: Plant Grants & Recommendations

Susan Carter provided handouts with examples of grant programs and related education efforts offered by other municipalities. As an example, Mount Dora covers half the cost, up to \$300, for planting live oaks in the city. Ft. Lauderdale provides a variety of 8-12 ft. trees

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free of cost but with assigned responsibilities for planting and maintenance. There are many similar programs in place, each with recommended or mandated list of trees, responsibilities, and restrictions. Bill Martini provided the following link to a grant program offered annually during September 12 thru November 14 by the State of Florida:

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/8573fe9e/UpKSNeE-Eq78Nqa3cOlxA?u=https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Grant-Opportunities/Florida-Urban-and-Community-Forestry-Grants>

There was general discussion regarding the implementation of a grant program and it was noted that there are many things to consider – how the application process would work, whether we would have formally assigned responsibilities such as care and maintenance, and who would check for compliance.

Volunteers and Assignments -

- Provide tree information: Pam Schrimsher confirmed her willingness to help with this. Susan Carter stated that we normally attach information in a plastic bag on each tree.
- Contact Olympia and West Orange HS Interact clubs for volunteers: Frank Krens stated that the Interact clubs may not be able to provide many volunteers this year.
- Contact Rotary to provide sandwiches for volunteers: Frank Krens stated that the Rotary Club of Windermere will provide breakfast sandwiches to volunteers as they did last year.
- Contact Chief Ogden to request Sea Cadet volunteers: Frank Krens is in contact with the Sea Cadets coordinator and will forward the on-line registering link for their use. Susan expects a need for 8 volunteers for the morning and 8 for the afternoon.

c. Historic Citrus Grove

As a follow-up to the November meeting, Susan Carter and Bill Martini met with Orlando Tree Consultant Jennifer Hitchcock to explore paths to improve the grove. They came away with a positive outlook that the grove can be gradually improved over time without it being a major project or expense. Immediate needs are to restore the irrigation, apply fertilizer, and remedy the trees that were planted too deep.

Bill Martini provided a link to Jennifer Hitchcock's website:

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/eb987f83/RUJb864a7UKGX1INE4ZrbQ?u=https://www.orlandotreeconsulting.com/>

d. 500 Block Development

As follow-up to previous meetings, Town Engineer John Fitzgibbon suggested that WTB members be prepared to revisit the previous WTB recommendation in favor of a 3-ft high wall along 6th Avenue because of concerns regarding headlight bleed-through over a 3-ft wall. Bill Martini said that he would bring this up at the next work session and WTB members agreed that they would attend the 6pm January 24, 2022 500 Block virtual workshop and update our recommendations.

e. Pavilion Tree Removals

John Fitzgibbon said that the stakes for the pavilion location were moved a little to save a couple trees. He also said that there is a "Little Gem" magnolia tree slated to be removed. This tree was

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planted by the Garden Club and has a plaque by it that states that it was planted in 1993 and noted “In honor of Bert Foster”. As this tree is in poor health, it likely would not survive and prosper if moved. It was recommended that the Garden Club consider planting a new tree in a new location, consider making it this year’s “Arbor Day Tree” as well as a 30-year rededication in honor of Bert Foster. Jackie Rapport agreed to discuss it with the Garden Club.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be a work session to prepare for the giveaway.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. November 17, 2022 Windermere Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Jackie Rapport moved that the November minutes be approved as written, Leslie Brabec seconded and they were approved 5/0.

5. ADJOURN – With no further business, Frank Krens moved to adjourn, Leslie Brabec seconded and the meeting was adjourned 5/0 at approximately 4:30pm.