



Town of Belleair

901 Ponce de Leon Blvd.
Belleair, FL 33756

Meeting Minutes Park & Tree Board

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

6:00 PM

Town Hall

Welcome. We are glad to have you join us. If you wish to speak, please wait to be recognized, then step to the podium and state your name and address. We also ask that you please turn-off all cell phones.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with Vice Chair Scott presiding. Meeting held in the Public Works break room.

ROLL CALL

Present 4 - Vice Chairman Dudley Scott, Lissa Dexter, Nancy Hartshorne, and David O'Connor

Absent 3 - Chairman Robert Bender, Amy Welch, and Kathy Gaston

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None to be heard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[18-0231](#) Approval of July 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Nancy Hartshorne moved approval of the minutes. Motion seconded by Lissa Dexter.

Aye: 4 - Vice Chairman Scott, Dexter, Hartshorne, and O'Connor

Absent: 3 - Chairman Bender, Welch, and Gaston

GENERAL AGENDA

[18-0325](#) Introduction of Mike Shumaker as Public Services Manager

Ricky Allison, Parks and Recreation Director, introduced Mike Shumaker the new Public Services Manager to the board.

Mr. Shumaker stated he was glad to be a part of the team; discussed his background and experience.

Mr. Allison stated Mr. Shumaker will be managing the park system, streets, storm water and sidewalks; will become certified as an arborist in the future; Mr. Shumaker will be working with the board.

[18-0326](#)

Update on Tackett Park Renovation Plan

Mr. Allison provided an update and overview of the Tackett Park Renovation Plan; stated there was a delay in getting the project completed; delays with Magnolia Park and other projects; Tackett Park renovation may not get completed this calendar year; completion date will be sometime the beginning of 2019; no change to the renovation plans.

Discussion ensued regarding the curved metal bench; going out to bid for general contractor; dry retention pond; next meeting date January 8th.

[18-0327](#)

Continue Discussion of Grand Tree ordinance

Mr. Allison provided the current Tree Ordinance to the board; nothing that spoke to the Grand Trees; discussed tree removal fees.

Commissioner Shelly suggested to possibly suggest to the commission the hiring of a consulting engineer to update the entire tree ordinance.

Mr. Allison stated that also included in the packet to the board was a small portion of the City of Dunedin's grand tree ordinance; reviewed Dunedin's grand tree ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding the measuring of trees; pruning of trees; tree condition guidelines; regarding other municipalities' grand tree ordinances.

Mr. Allison asked the board to do research and review other municipalities grand tree ordinances and to provide to staff, their thoughts on what they would like to be a part of the grand tree ordinance; need to have information to staff before the next meeting in January.

[18-0328](#)

Discussion of Tree-lined street options

Mr. Allison stated that the commission had brought up the discussion of Tree-lined streets and asked the board to discuss; the tree-lined streets mentioned in the Town Charter; Four streets: Ponce de Leon, Indian Rocks Road, Rosery and Bayview; Ponce and Rosery have been removed; discussed the palms; study of Bradenton about benefits of trees versus palms; discussed the Washingtonian palms.

Discussion ensued regarding the removal of trees along Ponce de Leon and Pine east to the Round-about; replantings and replacements.

Nancy Hartshorne spoke about past discussion on the removal of trees along Ponce de Leon.

Discussion ensued regarding the replacement of the Washingtonian palms and past

history of planting of the palms.

Mr. Allison stated that the commission would like to see from the Park and Tree board a recommendation as to an alternative or to stay the same for the tree-lined streets and palms; stated the arborist side of him was that palms provided no benefit to the Eco system in which we live; spoke about the benefits of shade trees versus palms.

Commissioner Shelly stated that in order to change the Charter, a referendum was required; the Washingtonians are stated in the Charter.

Discussion ensued regarding the Washingtonians; regarding transplanting; regarding having a mixture of trees; regarding the costs; regarding utility easements; regarding pine trees.

Mr. Allison briefly discussed the benefits of shade trees; policies of taking out a dead palm tree and replacements; asked the board to do research on tree replacements and alternative for the palms and to bring forth their suggestions to the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Allison stated that the board is scheduled to meet every other month on the second Tuesday of the month; stated agenda items coming up are the Grand Tree Ordinance, the tree replacement and tree-lined streets and in the future the development of the Bluff.

Ms. Dexter discussed the Belleair Community Foundation and Park and Tree Board; encouraged residents to use more Florida friendly plants.

Commissioner Shelly spoke about the strategic plan and the facilitator for Hallett Park; encouraged the members to come to the community forums and discussions on Hallett Park.

Discussion ensued regarding providing native Floridian plants at the Spring Fest and Arbor Day celebration.

Ms. Hartshorne discussed Waterfall Park; sewage smell coming from the nature park along Bayview.

Discussion ensued regarding the County sewage lift station; sewage smell along Waterfall Park area.

Mr. Allison stated he would look into the situation.

Commissioner Shelly spoke about the current tree ordinance; stated that it might be a good idea to hire a consulting engineer to update the ordinance.

Mr. Allison stated that some municipalities have hired a consulting engineer along with a group of arborists; City of Dunedin did this; the engineer and arborists would suggest where to update and change; look at cost to having someone look at the tree ordinance;

get costs and engage some firms; will bring to board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ricky Allison encouraged the board to get involved with the strategic planning process and to go to the community forums; the first meeting will be on November 28th.

COMMISSION ADVISOR REPORT

Commissioner Shelly stated that USF Institute of Government will be the facilitator at the Hallett Park community-wide conversation.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned in due form at 7:00 PM.

Nancy Hartshorne moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion Seconded by Lissa Dexter.

Aye: 4 - Vice Chairman Scott, Dexter, Hartshorne, and O'Connor

APPROVED:

Vice Chairman