

City of Galveston Tree Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting

February 23, 2021

11:00 A.M.

(409) 797-3700

Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order

Nancy Greenfield called to order the regular meeting of the City of Galveston Tree Committee at 11:00 A.M. on February 23, 2021 via ZOOM.

II. Roll Call

Committee members present: Nancy Greenfield, Chris Arneson, Vicki Blythe, Erin Brucia, Kathy Maines

Community members present: Marissa Barnett, Priscilla Files, Cesar Garcia, Megan Pierce, Susan Roth

III. Review and Approve Minutes

Motion to approve by Chris Arneson. 2nd by Vicki Blythe

IV. Discussion and/or Action

A. Education – GISD Oppe Elementary: report by Nan Wilson via email

- ...Alice Prest, the principal at Oppe and I talked about scheduling of the Tree information sessions for the fourth graders. She feels that it won't be possible this year because they're scrambling to deal with what's already on their plate.
- Elementary School educational sessions shelved for the remainder of this school year.

B. Update 2020 Tree City USA Submission: report by Nancy Greenfield

- As of 2/22/21, Galveston's Tree City USA status for 2020 was approved. Signs are on Ferry Road and Broadway at 59th median.
- Cesar Garcia would like extra flags and will hang wherever we would like.
- Priscilla Files has a list of bird friendly trees to coordinate with Galveston's Bird City Texas Community status.

C. Update West End Dog Park: Report by Cesar Garcia

- Drainage is complete. Mulching will be next. Grand opening 6 weeks after mulching. Tentatively late April, early May.

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D. Board Member/City Council Reports/Updates: Nothing to report.

E. Tree and Palm Discussion: Report by Priscilla Files and Susan Roth

- How to care for plants after freeze: There is lots of information already out there. Priscilla Files will get with the City and Daily News regarding posting in the newspaper and on social media. "Amplify information already out there." Per Susan Roth, "best advice is to wait".
- Priscilla Files will assess trees and palms at Moody Gardens for move to West End Dog Park.

F. Update from Susan Roth, ISA Certified Arborist

- For freeze damaged plants, "Do not fertilize unless using something like HastaGro or something organic. Keep watered well." Marissa Barnett states the city is holding a workshop and would like something to post on social media about local trees and the cold. Best advice is to plant what trees are doing well after the freeze. Susan Roth states we are in a subtropical climate. Our trees must be able to survive heat and humidity. Most important is to water, water, water.

V. Reports

A. Per Cesar Garcia, City is still considering buying a tree spade and will obtain equipment to make planting trees easier. It is more cost efficient for the City to move their own trees.

B. Cesar Garcia and Priscilla Files assessed trees on Broadway. Four (4) Live Oaks and thirteen (13) palms need to be replaced. Hoping to replace with trees and palms from Moody Gardens. Plan to obtain approximately 100 more trees from Moody Gardens.

C. Per Kathy Maines, Galveston County Master Gardener Association plant sale is in progress. Available are citrus, fruit trees, perennials, tomatoes. Shop and pay on-line. Contactless drive-thru order pickup at Carbide Park in LaMarque.

D. Nancy Greenfield will be meeting with the city regarding Tree City USA recertification for 2021. States need to help people prepare trees before winter storms to increase tree survival rates. We already have info for preparation prior to summer storms and hurricanes.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Nancy Greenfield at 11:44 am

Next Meeting Tuesday, March 23, 2021 @ 11:00 am

Minutes by Kathy Maines