

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes - Final

May 11, 2022

4:00 PM

Thomas Center Room 105

Tree Advisory Board

Marc Frank (Member)
C. Elisabeth Manley (Member)
Ryan Klein (Member)
Larsen McBride (Member)
Erick Smith (Member)
Dana Willson (Student Seat)

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CALL TO ORDER - 4:05 PM**ROLL CALL**

Present 6 - Member Frank, Member Manley, Member Klein, Member Willson, Member McBride, and Member Smith

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Member Frank, seconded by Member McBride that the agenda be approved, moving Sustainable Development forward to accommodate the guests.

A motion was made by Member Frank, seconded by Member McBride, that this matter be Adopted. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Frank, Member Manley, Member Klein, Member McBride, and Member Smith

Abstain: 1 - Member Willson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

211099. Approval of Minutes from the Tree Advisory Board Meeting of March 09, 2022 (B)

A motion was made by Member Frank, seconded by Member McBride the minutes of 3/19 be approved.

A motion was made by Member Frank, seconded by Member McBride, that this Matter be Approved as Recommended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Frank, Member Manley, Member Klein, Member McBride, and Member Smith

Abstain: 1 - Member Willson

211197. Approval of Minutes from the Tree Advisory Board Meeting of April 13, 2022 (B)

A motion was made by Member Frank, seconded by Member McBride the minutes of 4/13 be approved as corrected.

Adopted (Resolution)

Aye: 5 - Member Frank, Member Manley, Member Klein, Member McBride, and Member Smith

Abstain: 1 - Member Willson

GRU UPDATE

Forester Wolf discussed squirrel outages, biomass audit and downtown streetlights. Several hundred streetlights in the downtown area operated and maintained by Public Works and the CRA were transferred to GRU. There are multiple styles of lights installed by contractors over the last 30 years. None of these lights are up to GRU standards. The process of incorporation will be difficult.

Squirrels cause outages. During breeding season the number of squirrel caused outages increases. From 1/1/2002 to 4/1/2002 squirrels caused power outages to 11 customers. From 4/1/2002 to 5/11/2002 squirrels caused power outages to 7,923 customers. He described the utility's efforts to install equipment and safeguards to "squirrel proof" the system.

The forest related biomass audit is complete and found 100% compliant. The sites field audited included industrial forest - longleaf pine and gopher tortoise restoration, municipal forest (Williston airport) - hazard reduction thinning, a quarry - hazard reduction thinning, and two private sites - improving reforestation activities and thinning for forest health. These sites and activities showed the positive impacts to land owners forest management goals while using renewable, locally sourced fuel for electric generation.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Arborist Conser advised the streetlight illumination trimming contract has been signed, a plan is in place and Asplundh is ready to start. The goal is to renew the contract annually. The tree give away was a success. All trees were gone in 30 minutes. He plans to provide 1,000 trees for the next one. They are investigating placing more trees downtown. Since there is no space, a suggestion was to eliminate 2 street side parking spaces for a bump-out and one street tree. Evergreen Cemetery is planted, they are currently looking for unique species to supplement current planting. Other projects include the ecological analysis, rebid of the watering contract and downtown trees vs. hardscape projects.

Arborist Conser discussed the need for their own trailer and watering equipment to ensure the success of planting activities.

A motion was made by Member Frank, seconded by Member McBride, unanimous approval. The motion is below.

The Tree Advisory Board supports the use of up to \$25,000 for the purchase of a tree transport trailer and tree watering trailer to be used by the Urban Forestry Division for the establishment of tree mitigation funded trees.

DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Budget Manager Fiore discussed the TMF. She described how accounts are received and disbursed. She described the annual budget review process. She discussed how to allot staff time to the fund, either by timesheet/timekeeper allocation

of a one-time costing allocation - this would be a budget line item. Regarding land acquisition (typically a one time, big expenditure) she advised there would be no line item needed. Member McBride wondered if, instead of land purchases would the city be able to buy the individual trees and have ownership of the land surrounding them. Member Frank asked about expenditures like the urban forest assessment that would happen on a 5 year cycle. Manager Fiore advised this can be a recurring line item. Member Manley recommended looking at historical expenditures then looking at future goals to forecast expenditures. Board agreed.

Board will time their TMF activities with City processes and increase communication with City staff to better manage the fund.

DISCUSSION

211213. Additional Trailers Purchased Using Tree Mitigation Funds

RECOMMENDATION

The Urban Forestry Division Recommends that the Tree Advisory Board creates a resolution stating that purchasing the trailers is a proper use of the Tree Mitigation Fund.

210900.

Proposed Revision to Gainesville's Code (B)

Board clarified their prior comments on the code language, after review and reflection. They agreed to reference ANSI A300 - industry tree care pruning standards and ANSI Z133 industry safety standards in code language.

RECOMMENDATION

The Tree Advisory Board discuss, amend, and approve of the proposed code revisions.

201067.

Discuss Updated Approved Tree List for the Tree Ordinance (B)

RECOMMENDATION

The Tree Advisory Board 1) review tree documentation; and 2) arrive at a consensus for a suggested revision to the Code.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MEMBER COMMENT

There was no member comment.

NEXT MEETING DATE - 6-8-2022

ADJOURNMENT - 6:01 PM