

**VERO BEACH TREE AND BEAUTIFICATION
COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, November 15, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, Vero Beach, Florida**

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A) October 18, 2018**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A) Review Proposed Changes to City Ordinance**
 - B) Recognition of Mr. Chris Runge**
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A) Wording for Centennial Tree Plaque**
 - B) Update on the 100th Anniversary**
 - C) Recap of the Cultural Arts Village Tree Dedication**
 - D) Update on the Arbor Day Foundation - Community Canopy Program**
 - E) Tree Giveaway Project**
- 6. TREASURY REPORT**
- 7. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS**
 - A) Thank You Letter**
- 8. MEMBER'S MATTERS**
- 9. NEXT MEETING DATE**
 - A) Next Meeting Date – November 15, 2018**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

This is a Public Meeting. Should any interested party seek to appeal any decision made by the Commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator at 978-4920 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

**VERO BEACH TREE AND BEAUTIFICATION
COMMISSION MINUTES
Thursday, October 18, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, Vero Beach, Florida**

PRESENT: Vice Chairman, Marilyn Black Dussault; Member: Cynthia Schwarz, and Alternate Member Fran Robinson **Also Present:** Grounds Maintenance Manager, Nanette Haynes (arrived at 9:02); Assistant City Attorney, Stefanie Beskovoyne and Senior Administrative Assistant, Rita Hawkins

Excused Absences: Barbara Leigh, Elly Manov, and Neal Roe

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Dussault called today's meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and the Senior Administrative Assistant performed the roll call.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) September 20, 2018

Ms. Schwarz made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2018 Tree and Beautification Commission meeting. Mrs. Robinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. NEW BUSINESS

A) Election of Chairman

Mrs. Dussault announced that Mr. Chris Runge resigned from the Tree and Beatification Commission, which is the reason for the Election of Chairman on today's agenda. She asked if they should do an election with only three (3) Commission members present. The Senior Administrative Assistant explained that it is not required and Mrs. Dussault, Vice Chairman, can run the meeting and fill in as the Chairman.

Mrs. Dussault said she is reluctant to hold an election without all the Commission members being in attendance. She asked if they can they postpone the election until January 2019 when the normal election of officers are mandated, since they will only have two (2) more meetings.

Ms. Stefanie Beskovoyne, Assistant City Attorney, stated that since they have a Vice Chairman she does not believe it is an issue, but she will get an answer about postponing the election. It will not affect the meeting today. Mrs. Dussault stated that they will temporarily pass on the election of the Chairman until Ms. Beskovoyne has a definite response.

B) Arbor Day Foundation - Community Canopy Program

The Senior Administrative Assistant stated that the Sarasota County Community Canopy program article was provided to her by Ms. Kira Honse, Assistant City Attorney (on file in the City Clerk's office). She said she did some research on it and found more information from the Arbor Day Foundation on the Community Canopy program for the Commission to review (on file in the City Clerk's office).

Ms. Schwarz stated that she read about this program and she really likes the tree-planting tool that allows the residents to put in their address and based on the layout of their property it will tell them what type of tree is best, the best place to plant a tree, and how to take care of it. She thinks they should move forward with this program.

Mrs. Dussault said this looks like a wonderful enterprise for them to be involved in. She asked if she could get one of the members to volunteer to follow up on this.

Ms. Schwarz stated that she would gladly look into this further, because she is interested in it. It goes along with the other tree giveaway project that they have been discussing.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A) Wording for Centennial Tree Plaque

Mrs. Dussault said she is not sure where they stand on the plaque for the Centennial Tree. The Senior Administrative Assistant stated that both Mrs. Dussault and Ms. Schwarz submitted proposed ideas for the wording on the plaque. Mrs. Dussault suggested that they look over both submissions and they will table this until the November meeting.

B) Update on the Cultural Arts Village Tree Plantings

Mrs. Dussault announced that Mrs. Barbara Hoffman, Cultural Council Executive Director, was unable to attend today's meeting. She asked Mrs. Robinson to give them an update on her meeting with Mrs. Hoffman regarding the Arts Village tree dedication.

Mrs. Robinson reported that she met with Mrs. Hoffman after their September meeting and Mrs. Hoffman had everything lined out. The dedication will be on November 10, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., and Mrs. Hoffman chose the location, which will be on the vacant lot located at the corner of 18th Avenue and 19th Street. They plan to have a podium and several tables set up. Wild Thyme Catering will be providing snacks and drinks. She said Mrs. Hoffman is looking for someone to provide music for about 15 minutes prior to the start of the event and she was hoping to have a Centennial flag available to display. Mrs. Dussault explained that there is not a flag, but Mrs. Hoffman was informed that there are Centennial banners that she can use. She said the Mrs. Hoffman was hoping that a member of the Tree and Beautification Commission could say a few words and give a tree dedication speech if they have one. Mrs. Robinson commented that if the Tree and Beautification Commission would like to put out any information or literature for the public they can use any of the tables that are available.

Mrs. Dussault asked Mrs. Robinson to notify the Cultural Arts Village that she will be more than happy to make some remarks at the tree dedication.

Mrs. Robinson stated that Mrs. Hoffmann asked Dr. Richard Baker, Audubon Society, to speak about the trees and after he is finished they will have the tree dedication. She said that Mrs. Hoffman will close the event with a few remarks and then they will be conducting a walking tour of some of the historic homes in that area. They will not go into the homes, but someone has put together detailed information on the history of the homes.

Mrs. Dussault stated that Mrs. Hoffmann has been so instrumental in spearheading this event. She deserves a tremendous amount of credit for everything she has done. She hopes that they can all attend the dedication on November 10, 2018.

Ms. Beskovoyne commented that she would like to readdress the election of the Chairman. She recommends that the Commission hold off on the election of a Chairman since it is so close to the end of the year. Mrs. Dussault can continue to conduct the meetings as the Vice Chairman until the election.

Ms. Schwarz made a motion to postpone the Election of Chairman and allow Mrs. Dussault to fill in as the acting Chairman since she is the current Vice Chairman. Mrs. Robinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C) Tree Giveaway Project

Mrs. Dussault said the tree giveaway was Mr. Runge's project. She asked if they are still working on this project.

Ms. Schwarz explained that the last discussion Mr. Runge had about this project was that he was eliminating the voucher and making it a first come first serve type of program. The residents would be able to pick up the trees on the Beautification weekend and they would be handed out in the parking lot at the Police Department or at City Hall. She is not sure if they should move forward with this project, but she will try to get as much information from Sarasota, Florida on the Community Canopy program and perhaps they will be able to weave it into this project.

Mrs. Dussault read several paragraphs from page four (4) of the September 20, 2018 minutes (on file in the City Clerk's office). She asked if the Commission is going to follow through with this program.

Ms. Schwarz said that since she volunteered to do more research on this new program with the Arbor Day Foundation Community Canopy she would like to see if it might be a new option. She will come back at their next meeting with more details.

Ms. Haynes said that the biggest thing is having the right tree in the right place. They will want to make sure that the homeowners select the right spot and the correct species of tree for their property. They should have a variety of trees to accommodate properties of all sizes and that intelligent planting instructions are provided as part of the program.

Ms. Schwarz explained that based on the information they received, Sarasota, Florida offers five (5) species of trees, but she is not sure they would be the correct trees for Vero Beach. Ms. Schwarz said she personally loves Tipuana Tipu and Crape Myrtle trees. Ms. Haynes stated that there are a few other trees that she could add to the list that she really likes.

Mrs. Dussault asked Ms. Beskovoyne if the Tree and Beautification Commission is sponsoring the tree giveaway program, but the trees are being donated by vendors would they have to worry if the people receiving the trees are City residents. The Commission is not expending any City funds for the project, so she does not know of any restrictions on the Tree and Beautification Commission sponsoring a program like this.

Ms. Beskovoyne explained that there might be people who are snowbirds and they might not have proof of residency here, or have a Florida driver's license. The enforceability is going to be impossible and if they try to get into the nitty-gritty of the program it might fail.

Mrs. Dussault stated that she wants to make sure they can do this project after they do all of the research.

D) Update on the 100th Anniversary

Mrs. Dussault reported that all of the trees for the schools were delivered on Monday and they look gorgeous. They are eight (8) to nine (9) feet tall with a diameter of about three (3) feet. On Tuesday she was present when the trees were picked up and delivered to the Charter and Private schools. All of the schools have their trees, planting instructions, care instructions, and the trees will be planted by the end of the week.

Ms. Haynes passed around one (1) of the plaques to the Commission members to see.

Mrs. Dussault said the plaque reads "Honoring the citizens who made Vero Beach successful and pledge to continue their legacy". She explained that the plaques are currently being mounted on the posts and they will be delivered to the schools.

Mrs. Dussault reviewed the school tree-planting schedule and verified that the Commission members will be in attendance at their scheduled schools. She said if Ms. Haynes could deliver the posts with the plaques to the private and charter schools that would help tremendously.

Mrs. Robinson said that she looked at the location of where the Oak Tree will be planted at Vero Beach Elementary School and she is concerned that the location will not be big enough, because Oak Trees get very large. Mrs. Dussault explained that planting and care instructions were given to each school and they were informed it would be a Live Oak and it will grow into a very large tree. For 18 months the schools have known they would be receiving a 30-gallon Live Oak Tree and they should have been doing their research on the property to choose the best location.

6. TREASURY REPORT

The Senior Administrative Assistant reported that there have been no changes in the Tree accounts since their September meeting.

7. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

Mrs. Dussault stated that it would be nice to recognize and honor Mr. Runge for everything he did for the Tree and Beautification Commission while he served on this Board. She asked that this item be placed on the November agenda for discussion.

8. MEMBER'S MATTERS

Mrs. Dussault said that each member received a copy of the revised City Ordinance that Ms. Beskovoyne drafted. She said Ms. Beskovoyne had to excuse herself from the meeting to attend another commitment. Mrs. Dussault recommended that since they only have three (3) members in attendance today that they take this with them, review it, and bring back any comments or questions to their next meeting. The other Commission members agreed.

Ms. Schwarz stated that the artist who approached her about doing the mural on the walls has respectfully declined, but the Art Club is still interested in the project.

Ms. Schwarz said that she spoke with Ms. Jessica Matthews, Indian River County Library, who heads the special events and classes at the Library. She said Ms. Matthews informed her that the Library is open late on Monday and Thursday and she could schedule the lectures at 6:00 p.m. on those days. Ms. Schwarz said she would like to sign up for one (1) of these dates in January. The 3rd, 10th, 14th, 28th, and 31st of January are available. She thought it would be nice to give away a couple of trees as part of her informational program, so she contacted Mr. Richard Baker, Audubon Society, who said they have plenty of trees and would donate trees for her to give away. She thought it would be good to do this on a quarterly basis covering different subjects. Mrs. Robinson said another resource for her might be the Master Gardeners, because they are also doing a variety lectures on a several topics at the Libraries.

Ms. Schwarz stated that the City of Vero Beach is a Tree City USA community, but she was curious to know if Sebastian, Fellsmere, Gifford, or other places in Indian River County were tree cities. Ms. Haynes stated that there are a few requirements that have to be met to become a Tree City, which includes having a Tree Board, and spending so much money per capita, etc.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

A) Next Meeting Date – November 15, 2018

The next meeting of the Tree and Beautification Commission is scheduled for November 15, 2018.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Schwarz made a motion to adjourn today's meeting at 10:21 a.m. Mrs. Robinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

/rh

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE TREE REPLACEMENT FUND; AMENDING TITLE VII, LAND DEVELOPMENT, CHAPTER 72, LANDSCAPING AND TREE PROTECTION, SEC. 72.43(i)(1) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF VERO BEACH; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Vero Beach ("City") established a City tree replacement fund for the purpose and intent of providing an alternative means for mitigating the removal of specimen trees, protected trees, and protected palms by allowing payment into such fund the amount that it would cost for purchase and installation of the required replacement trees and palms ("Tree Replacement Fund"); and

WHEREAS, the City's Tree and Beautification Committee has recommended certain amendments to the City's code related to the use of the Tree Replacement Funds in order to broaden or expand the scope of the use of the funds for tree and beautification projects, specifically to expend the funds for maintenance and installation costs, including but not limited to the costs associated with boring, installing irrigation, and costs to grind stumps to prepare the area for planting; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Vero Beach ("City Council") finds that the Code amendments provided in this Ordinance serve a municipal purpose and promote and protect the public health, safety, and welfare,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA THAT:

Section 1 – Adoption of "Whereas" clauses.

The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby adopted and incorporated herein as forming the legislative findings, purpose, and intent of this Ordinance.

Section 2 – Amendment of Section 72.43(i)(1), Tree Replacement Fund; Alternative Mitigation.

Section 72.43(i)(1) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(i) *Tree replacement fund; alternative mitigation.*

(1) There is hereby established a city tree replacement fund for the purpose and intent of providing applicants with an alternative means for mitigating the removal of specimen trees, protected trees, and protected palms by allowing

payment by the applicant into such fund the amount that it would cost for purchase and installation of the required replacement trees and palms. The amount of such costs shall be as determined or approved by the city engineer. All amounts paid into the fund shall be reserved solely for the ~~removal of~~ invasive plants, purchase, relocation, planting, or maintenance or costs associated with planting, such as stump grinding, irrigation system installation and all required permitting for of trees and palms on public property and rights-of-way within the city. With the approval of city council, such funds may be used to purchase vacant property for the preservation of existing trees or palms of significant public interest.

Section 3 – Codification.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be codified in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Vero Beach, Florida.

Section 4 – Conflict and Severability.

In the event any provision of this Ordinance conflicts with any other provision of the Code or any other ordinance or resolution of the City of Vero Beach on the subject matter of this Ordinance, the more strict provision shall apply and supersede. If any provision of this Ordinance is held to be invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall be deemed separate, distinct, and independent provisions enforceable to the fullest extent possible.

Section 5 – Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective upon final adoption by the City Council.

This Ordinance was read by title for the first time on the ____ day of _____ 2018, and was advertised on the ____ day of _____ 2018, for a public hearing to be held on the ____ day of _____ 2018, at the conclusion of which hearing it was moved for adoption by Councilmember _____, seconded by Councilmember _____, and adopted by the following vote of the City Council:

Mayor Harry Howle III _____
Vice Mayor Lange Sykes _____
Councilmember Laura Moss _____

Councilmember Anthony W. Young _____
Councilmember Val Zudans _____

ATTEST:

CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA

Tammy K. Bursick
City Clerk

Harry Howle III
Mayor

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
(For Internal Use Only—Sec. 2-77 COVB Code)

Approved as to form and
legal sufficiency:

Approved as conforming to
municipal policy:

Wayne R. Coment
City Attorney

James R. O'Connor
City Manager

Approved as to technical requirements:

Approved as to technical requirements:

Cynthia D. Lawson
Finance Director

Monte K. Falls
Public Works Director

5-A)

-----Original Message-----

From: Marilyn Dussault

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 3:33 PM

To: Hawkins, Rita

Subject: RE: Tree Dedications

Rita,

Sorry I did not include my submission in my e-mail yesterday. Here it is:

"In celebration of the first one hundred years of the City of Vero, we honor the citizens who made it possible and vow to continue their legacy of dedication and commitment."

Marilyn

-----Original Message-----

From: Hawkins, Rita <RHawkins@covb.org>

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 2:55 PM

To: 'Marilyn Dussault'

Subject: RE: Tree Dedications

Marilyn,

I added the Centennial Tree plaque wording to the agenda per Ms. Haynes request from the August meeting. Do you know what the plaque is going to read so she can move forward.

Thank you,

Rita Hawkins

Senior Administrative Assistant

City of Vero Beach

City Clerk's Office

1053 20th Place

Vero Beach, FL 32960

Office: (772) 978-4700

Fax: (772) 978-4790

rhawkins@covb.org

Hawkins, Rita

Subject: RE: Centennial Tree Plaque

From: Cynthia Schwarz

Sent: Sunday, September 23, 2018 3:18 PM

To: Hawkins, Rita

Subject: Centennial Tree Plaque

Hello Rita:

Here is my version of the plaque wording:

"To celebrate the first 100 years of the City of Vero (Beach). We honor all citizens who made this great City possible. We vow to continue this legacy."

Cynthia Schwarz

City of Vero Beach Tree and Beautification Commission, member

October 31, 2018

7-A

Dear All:

The celebration of the 100th Birthday of the city of Vero is a salute to the 792 citizens of Vero and their progeny who, through collaboration and dedication, created, nourished and grew Vero into the City of Vero Beach.

That spirit of collaboration and dedication is clearly evidenced by the Centennial School Tree Dedication Project in which you have all most generously participated.

More than two years ago the Project was a dream. You have made it a reality.

Between October 15, 2018 and October 19, 2018, 25 30 gallon, live oak trees, generously donated by Becker Tree Farm, were delivered to the Indian River School District Operations Complex. Dr. Mark Rendell, Superintendent of Schools, not only approved the delivery, he also provided guidance and help from Jon Teske, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Jason Caldwell and all the wonderful Operations Complex employees who distributed and planted those trees in 17 public schools in Indian River County.

The remaining 8 trees were retrieved, planted and “watered” by the dedicated leaders, friends and families of the 2 Charter and 6 Private schools in Indian River County who joined in this wonderful celebration.

25 plaques, generously donated by Image 360 and Diggs Gardens, were mounted on wooden supports by Vero Beach Grounds Maintenance Manager Nanette Haynes and her team. 17 were delivered to Jason Caldwell and 8 were hand delivered by Nanette’s team to those Charter and Private schools.

Between October 22, 2018 and October 26, 2018, each of the 25 schools conducted a tree dedication ceremony. Each ceremony was attended by students, teachers, principals, family, friends, clergy, Mayor Harry Howell, Vice-Mayor Lang Sykes, City Council Members Laura Moss and Tony Young, Members of the Vero Beach Tree & Beautification Commission, City Manager Jim O’Conner, City Recreation Director Rob Slezak and City Clerk Tammy Bursick.

Each ceremony was photographed by public school photographers and volunteer, professional Centennial photographers Lee Orre, Gretchen Giles, Steve Erikson and Wyatt Hyora.

The successful scheduling of this enormous Project was the work of Councilman Tony Young, Chair of the Centennial Committee, and Bev Paris, Kim Brady and Amy Wagner, the leaders of the Centennial Publicity Committee.

And keeping it all on track was Tammy Bursick, Clerk of the City of Vero Beach.

When we began planning the Centennial Celebration we felt that it should begin with our future Vero Beach leaders, our children, so that they would understand that

the spirit of collaboration and dedication exhibited by our founders is alive, well and thriving 100 years later.

It has been my honor to work with all of you. Thank you for your cooperation and dedication. You have truly made this project a joy!

**Marilyn Black Dussault
Member, Vero Beach Centennial Committee;
Vice-Chair Vero Beach Tree & Beautification Commission.**