

**VERO BEACH TREE AND BEAUTIFICATION
COMMISSION MINUTES
Thursday, September 19, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, Vero Beach, Florida**

PRESENT: Chairman, Marilyn Black Dussault; Vice Chairman, Cynthia Schwarz; Members: Fran Robinson, Neal Roe, and Katherine Booth **Also Present:** City Attorney's office, Karen Emerson, Grounds Maintenance Manager, Nanette Haynes, and Records Retention Specialist, Heather McCarty

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dussault called today's meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and the Records Retention Specialist performed the roll call.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) August 15, 2019

Ms. Schwarz said in the minutes, there was a date of 2016 that should have been 2019. She did not bring her notes with her and did not remember where.

Mrs. Booth and Mrs. Dussault could not locate that in the minutes. Mrs. Dussault said they would hold that in abeyance until they find it.

Ms. Schwarz made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2019 Tree and Beautification Commission meeting. Mrs. Booth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. NEW BUSINESS

A) Discussion on Allowing Benches at the Centennial Tree to be used as Dedicatory Benches

Mrs. Dussault said they need to how they would go about doing this and more importantly, if they have anything to say about it because it seems to her that they do not. They dedicated the tree and a bench and there are three (3) other benches available. She would like to publicize that those benches are available.

Ms. Haynes said that if someone wants to dedicate a bench, they usually pick the place. She does speak with everyone who wants to dedicate a bench and she could tell them that those are available.

Ms. Schwarz asked if there are other benches that haven't been dedicated and if there is a place on the City's website where they show what is available.

Ms. Haynes said there are benches in every Park that can be dedicated. She explained it is not a formal program, but she does speak with everyone who is interested in the Dedicatory Tree Program and she lets them know they have benches available.

Mrs. Emerson explained in the Code in Section 2.102, it talks about the designated purpose of the Tree and Beautification Commission and it says the Commission shall also hear applications for dedication trees to be planted in the City pursuant to the Resolution, but it does not mention benches. She said they need to look into whether the City has anything written regarding dedicatory benches.

Mrs. Dussault said it would be nice for the other benches to be dedicated to different memberships or different participants within the City, such as former Mayors or City Council members. In her opinion, because it is a Centennial tree, she would like it to be centered around all of the people who participated in the formation and the progress of the City.

Ms. Schwarz asked about someone who has lived here 40 or 50 years and they aren't in that group, but they feel they contributed to whatever the City's mission was going forward. Mrs. Dussault said she does not want to be exclusionary. She would like to see more participation with respect to the people who are here. She would love personally to dedicate a bench to everyone who has served on City Council because that is very important.

Ms. Haynes suggested it might be worthwhile to bring it up at a Centennial meeting and see if they might want to dedicate the others so then it would be a done deal. Ms. Schwarz said that she would bring that up at the Centennial meeting she has next week.

Mrs. Emerson said that it is not a matter they have to vote on because it is not in the purview of the Board.

The Commission members were all in agreement that it was a good idea for Ms. Schwarz to do that.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A) Discuss Lemmon Lines Article from Ms. Schwarz and Mrs. Booth's Proposed Article

Mrs. Dussault said that Ms. Schwarz had already left their last meeting when these items were brought up so they tabled them until today.

Ms. Schwarz said that her memory is that she brought this up previously and had said she was going to write the article from the information she had from the presentations at the library and she thought they were all in agreement.

Mrs. Dussault said the distinction that she sees in this Lemmon Lines article is that she is talking about Tree City USA, which is in the Code as one of their primary responsibilities. She assumed that a vote would have been taken at the June meeting, which she was not at. She did not see this as a problem and referred to Mrs. Emerson.

Mrs. Emerson said at the end of the last meeting they discussed this very specifically and anything that purports to speak for the Commission should be on the agenda as it is to be written before publishing it. She said members could write in their individual capacity as long as they do not imply that they are representing the Commission. Also, they need to be careful not to use it as a forum to discuss matters with other Commission members.

Mrs. Dussault said they should go back to the June meeting minutes and see if this is what Ms. Schwarz gave the Board to look at.

Mrs. Booth read from the June 20, 2019 minutes, “Ms. Schwarz stated that she provided the Commission members with a copy of an article that she would like to submit to Lemmon Lines (on file in the City Clerk’s office). She also contacted News Weekly and they can submit a periodic guest column with updates on the Tree and Beautification Commission and their events. She will hold off writing that column, because she wants to do another Library session and she would like to include the date and subject. She asked if anyone has other ideas on any changes for the Lemmon Lines article. Mrs. Booth stated that she would be interested in writing an article for any of the publications. Mr. Roe stated that if the article will be published digitally she might want to include some links to other pages like the City’s website, the Library, etc.”

Mrs. Dussault referred to Mrs. Booth’s article (on file in the City Clerk’s office), which she said is really outstanding. She said this is an article that essentially Mrs. Booth could certainly publish, but not as a member of the Tree and Beautification Commission.

Mrs. Emerson said that is correct in that it is not related to a function of their Board, so it does not need to be voted on. Mrs. Dussault reiterated she is free to publish it in her own name, but not as a member of this Commission.

Mrs. Booth asked if they could formally approve her article so that it could be submitted by the Commission, which is why she wanted it on this agenda.

Mrs. Dussault said it seems to her that they need to look at what they do and whether the subject of pruning trees is part of their responsibility and something they could vote on. She questioned if they couldn’t vote on the prior bench item, if this wouldn’t fall into the same category.

Mrs. Emerson said that she could not speak to the content, but it appears to deal with the taking care of trees.

Mrs. Booth said that is what they are educating about. Ms. Schwarz asked if that wouldn’t be in the scope of what they are talk about at their meetings.

Mrs. Dussault said if they look at the benches, it did not fall within the Code, therefore there was no vote taken.

Mrs. Emerson said if Mrs. Booth is proposing this article and asking them to evaluate whether they believe the content is within their purview, and if they would be willing to sponsor it. She said from her point with not being an arborist, this seems to deal with the care of trees.

Mrs. Robinson pointed out that none of them are arborists and asked if by putting the Tree and Beautification Commission’s name on it, if they would be overstepping their knowledge.

Mrs. Robinson commented that a certain person published an article about grass that received a lot of attention and produced a lot of negativity because it was written by a scientist, but it was not scientifically backed. She said she agrees with much of what she wrote, but she does not have the scientific backing or the arborist training and somebody could say she doesn’t know what she is talking about.

Mrs. Booth said whenever she gave her presentation to this Commission, there was no question about her sources. She can provide sources from two (2) highly acclaimed people in horticulture who teach about pruning. She stated that this is not actually an opinion and that she has used investigative techniques and science for this article.

Ms. Haynes said she agreed and did not think there was anything incorrect in the article because she is not speaking from her background and did the research. She suggested citing where some of the facts came from, which would make it not just her opinion. Mrs. Robinson agreed.

Ms. Haynes said they are putting a lot of effort into redoing the tree protection Ordinance to be able to put forth what they want to see as a City for all of the people that are doing work in the City and touching the trees. She thinks reminding homeowners what trees don't need and what trees do need is always a good thing, but there are a lot of different opinions about that. Sometimes people want to have that scientific background of where the information came from.

Ms. Schwarz agreed it needs to be cited. She said people are looking at them to do the research and find out what they should do and educate them.

Mrs. Robinson said she would be good with it with scientific citations added.

Mr. Roe said editorially, the article is too long because space is limited. Ms. Schwarz pointed out that Lemmon Lines is 250 words or less.

Mrs. Dussault asked Mrs. Booth where she wanted to publish it. Mrs. Booth said she was leaving that up to Ms. Schwarz's discretion.

Ms. Schwarz said as far as Lemmon Lines, he (Mr. Russ Lemmon) specifically has said 250 words. She doesn't know how often they can get something in there because it took a lot to get her article in there. She said with News Weekly, where she is a writer, her editor told her she can put in an item at the back of the publication and have between 100 to 200 words. She said for a whole article like Mrs. Booth's, she can approach her editor about it, or Mrs. Booth could do that on her own. Mrs. Booth said she would contact them.

Mrs. Dussault asked if they are saying to Mrs. Booth to go back and if in fact, this is going to be an article of information, that she do the appropriate citations and then bring it back to them to vote on. The other Commission members agreed.

Ms. Schwarz asked if they should make a motion specific to this, or should they make a more general motion.

Mrs. Dussault said they cannot have general motions and anything that is published that is going to have their name must be reviewed and approved by the Commission individually.

Mrs. Robinson made a motion that Mrs. Booth review and resubmit her article to them at their next meeting with the appropriate revisions and citations to submit for approval for publication in local entities. Ms. Schwarz seconded the motion and it passed 5-0, with Mrs. Booth voting yes, Mr. Roe yes, Mrs. Robinson yes, Ms. Schwarz yes, and Mrs. Dussault yes.

Ms. Schwarz made a motion that any article that has the Commissions name on it should be voted on and discussed by the entire Commission before it is allowed to go out for publication. Mrs. Robinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- B) Update on Centennial Parade Float – Mr. Neal Roe**
- C) Discuss the Publicity, the Yard Signs, and a City Project for the Beautification Weekend – February 8th – 9th, 2020**

Mr. Roe reported they are a go with everything on the truck and trailer and all the paperwork has been submitted. There is a meeting in September and October and he will be attending both. He said the course is 1.4 miles and if they have any children participating, they might not be able to walk the whole route and they should have a plan for that. The other thing he said is that parking is going to be an issue. He said there is a very long list of participants who are slotted based on the age of their group and each decade has a segment of the parade. They are in the 80's and their number is 59.

Mr. Roe said there are banners that the Tree and Beautification Commission has, but they are very long and can't be used on the float. He is going to see if he can get something donated.

Ms. Schwarz asked about the yard signs. Mr. Roe said that he looked at using them but they say "This weekend."

Mrs. Dussault said she thinks this an outstanding opportunity for them to begin the publicity for the beautification weekend. She said if they could get someone to donate the signs, that would be great but she thinks they need to do everything in their power to publicize that weekend, including the dates. She asked what the costs of the signs were previously.

Mr. Roe will try to see if they can get someone to donate signs with the dates.

Ms. Schwarz asked about the size of the trailer. Mr. Roe said it is 45' and he would recommend no more than four (4) signs, one (1) at each corner.

Ms. Schwarz asked would it be something like "Save the date. This year's beautification weekend is February 8th and 9th 2020." Mrs. Dussault suggested maybe "not save the date", but something like "this is your City and Participate." She said with their next meeting date being only 10 days prior to the parade, they need to decide what to say today.

The Commission agreed on the wording, "Join in! Beautification weekend February 8 – 9, 2020."

Ms. Schwarz asked about graphics and the City logo. Mr. Roe said he has the City logo to put on it.

Mrs. Dussault said if they can't get people to donate, she would pay for a sign personally. Mr. Roe asked if they could have the name of who donated it on it. Mrs. Dussault did not think that it could be on the sign.

Ms. Haynes said that it is not out of the ordinary and that she has done landscaping projects where she has partnered with someone and the signs had their logo on them.

Mrs. Dussault thinks if they are going to start doing that, she thinks they would have to go to City Council for approval and she doesn't want to go through that if they don't have to. She said she would be happy to pay for two (2) of them. Mrs. Robinson said that she would pay for two (2) as well. Mrs. Dussault said then they do not need to look for a donator and asked Mr. Roe to let them know the cost and they would pay for them.

Mrs. Dussault said with regards to that weekend, at their last meeting, they talked about how they could incorporate Dr. Baker's and other people participating and Mrs. Emerson gave them advice that was excellent. Since they can't support him as a partner, perhaps they could list those people who are supporting the weekend. She suggested maybe he could get people who were interested in supporting

their weekend by holding his seminar in January. She does not see that as running afoul of any of their requirements.

Mrs. Emerson clarified that she is saying she would like Dr. Baker do something special. Mrs. Dussault said she is suggesting that if Dr. Baker wants to pursue his goal with his 100,000 trees, then perhaps he could hold a seminar in January and if someone wants to participate in their weekend and they would like to plant a tree, then they could attend his seminar and he would supply the tree. She said that would be supporting him, but not putting them in a position where they are partnering.

Mrs. Emerson said that they could suggest that to Dr. Baker.

D) Update on the Request to City Council on the Expenditure of Funds for the Dedicatory Bench and Plaque

Mrs. Dussault reported that was approved yesterday at the City Council meeting under consent agenda.

6. TREASURY REPORT

Mrs. Dussault said that they did not have Treasury Report for today and would hopefully have it at their next meeting.

7. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

Mrs. Dussault said after watching yesterday's meeting, she really has to thank all of them for being such active and dedicated members of this Commission and for being willing to do everything in their power to help this City maintain its Tree City USA designation and the beauty and the cooperation and the caring and concern of all Citizens. She thanked Mrs. Emerson for being at their meetings and helping them. She commented that watching yesterday's Council meeting was a very sad experience.

Mrs. Dussault said they have an application for a tree dedication that is celebrating the life of Mr. David Minuse. She asked if it was acceptable.

Ms. Haynes said this is the first time she has seen this application and it has not yet been approved by the Public Work's Director. She said the tree is fine, but the verbiage is not going to fit on the plaque.

Mrs. Dussault suggested they table this item until their next meeting so they can get it squared away properly and get the proper approval before they approve it.

8. MEMBER'S MATTERS

Mrs. Booth said she saw mention of a Planning and Zoning Board 2018 Annual report, which she thought might have some history of tree mitigation for developments. She could not locate it on the website and inquired where she could find that. She found the reference in the Planning and Zoning Board meeting minutes. Mrs. Dussault suggested she could call the Planning and Zoning Department directly.

Mrs. Booth said from their minutes of their last meeting, they were going to vote on the tree dedication list, which should have been under "Old Business."

Mrs. Dussault said they don't have the final list in their packet. Mrs. Emerson said if the Commission members do not have it in front of them, then they should table it to the next meeting.

Mrs. Dussault said they had been going over it and making changes so they need to see the list that they are going to vote on. Ms. Haynes said she would make the changes and have it to them for their next meeting.

Mr. Roe suggested they have something written up about the beautification weekend in terms of a plan and marketing, etc... by their next meeting to talk about so they can start preparing. He volunteered to come up with something and bring it back to them. Mrs. Dussault agreed and said they do need to stay on it. Mr. Roe said especially with beautification because he sees so many businesses refreshing things.

Mrs. Robinson brought up the hanging baskets on 14th Avenue. She said she keeps an eye on them and they have been looking so much better since they were replanted in February.

Mrs. Dussault added that she was amazed in August that they were looking so well despite how hot it was. She said kudos to whoever is doing that and they should try and find out who.

Mrs. Robinson asked Ms. Haynes if she met with Mrs. Bowden and Mrs. Moss. Ms. Haynes said that she had and went over their concerns. She thinks there are a couple of things that need to be pruned in Riverside Park for safety reasons. Her habit has been that for some of those limbs that extend way out to put wood underneath them to support them. She said their concern was with children playing on them. She is very hesitant to cut big limbs off old Oak trees.

Mrs. Robinson said she appreciated her responsiveness. Ms. Haynes said they are like that with all the citizens and their concerns. She agreed there was some stuff that needed to be done there and there are some limbs she wants to prop up. She said the women were concerned that limbs that were that low might make them top heavy and more likely to go over in a hurricane. She said with Hurricane Frances and Jeanne, they had three (3) trees go down and had a crane come in and put them back up. They did lose one (1) tree because it was super wet and the roots just rotted. The others that were propped up have been living, but she cannot take the stakes off because the roots are damaged. She said she does not know what to do to not make them top heavy, especially in a hurricane.

Mrs. Dussault commented that only losing one (1) Oak tree after Frances and Jeanne, she thinks they are doing well and are fortunate.

Mrs. Booth referred to the Arbor Day articles that they were provided with (on file in the City Clerk's office). She said something she wants them all to understand is that the benefit of the tree is in the leaves and if the branches are removed, the leaves are removed. She pointed out that overpruning removes that benefit to them, which is the leaves.

A) Library Informational Lecture – October 17, 2019 – Ms. Schwarz

Ms. Schwarz talked about the article, "City of Vero Beach Tree and Beautification Commission Happenings," that she proposed to have written in the News Weekly (on file in the City Clerk's office). She said it was a way for her to advertise the program. It deals with the October 17th program, which had been rescheduled from the meeting the week of the hurricane.

Mrs. Robinson asked about the scheduling for 6:00 p.m. and asked if that was because of the library or if she thought more people might attend. She mentioned that Thursday there are several groups that meet at that time. Ms. Schwarz said for this specific date, Dr. Baker picked the day. The time is conducive to the library. She said she could do it in the daytime as well, but this one, Dr. Baker picked.

Mrs. Robinson said the Master Gardeners had been doing one at the main Library around 5:30 p.m. and they were able to move it to the daytime because they thought the attendance would be best. Ms. Schwarz said she thought that too. She can do the daytime meetings. Ms. Schwarz said in regards to Dr. Baker, they can't necessarily join with him, but she could use him and thinks he would be conducive to do the next two (2) or three (3) library programs.

Mrs. Dussault stated that she thinks that is a bad idea. She explained that gives the perception that they are sponsoring or partnering with him. She said it is not just the actual partnering, but also the perception.

Mrs. Emerson referred in the article where it said free native live Oak trees will be available, but it doesn't say who is giving away the trees. Ms. Schwarz said she left it purposely obscure.

Mrs. Dussault said they do not give away trees so it cannot be obscure. Ms. Schwarz said Dr. Baker is going to give away the trees along with the education process.

Mrs. Dussault said they cannot be available at that meeting because there has to be a seminar before the tree is given. Ms. Schwarz said yes and no. She said Dr. Baker has said this would suffice for education and people that went to this seminar could get a tree.

Mrs. Dussault said then they would be giving his seminar and that they could not do that. She said if he is saying that his speech, which they are hosting, is fulfilling the requirement of the seminar and after that native trees will be available, then they are sponsoring his seminar. She very adamantly said they cannot do that.

Mrs. Booth asked if there could be a disclaimer. Mrs. Dussault explained that if Dr. Baker is telling them that this presentation is part of his Trees for Life program so that it mitigates against people having to take another seminar, then they are sponsoring him.

Mrs. Booth said the article does not say that this takes the place of his seminar. He is going to be presenting his program, but it does not say that it is going to be a substitute for his seminar.

Mrs. Dussault pointed out that Dr. Baker told Ms. Schwarz that this was going to suffice. She stated that there is no way that they do not know that was the intent.

Ms. Schwarz said they could take out the part about the free trees. She did not think he would have said it could substitute if she hadn't asked him about giving the trees out. Mrs. Dussault said the point is that they know it. Mrs. Booth suggested they say that he cannot give them away.

Ms. Schwarz asked if they could do the presentation at all. Mrs. Dussault thought at their meeting last month they were abundantly clear they could not co-sponsor or be partners. If he is saying that this presentation that they sponsor is going to allow him to give out the Oak trees, then they cannot do it.

Mrs. Booth suggested he just doesn't give out the trees at the time of that presentation.

Mrs. Robinson asked if she gave out trees at the last presentation. Ms. Schwarz answered yes, that they were donated by Dr. Baker, but he wasn't the guest speaker and there was no mention that they were from Trees for Life.

Mrs. Dussault said as the Chair and as an attorney, there is no language and no way they could get around the fact that they would be sponsoring him.

Ms. Schwarz asked what do they need to change.

Mrs. Booth asked if would be possible to have the meeting and let people know that if they want a tree, they have to go to another education class. She added that there is precedence because they did give out trees at their last two (2) presentations. Mrs. Dussault said but Dr. Baker wasn't the guest speaker at those meetings.

Mrs. Booth said Dr. Baker is not present to say what the facts are. They were able to do it before regardless of the speaker. She said this presentation does not have to fulfil his requirement.

Mrs. Dussault said the question is what the real purpose of this particular presentation is. Ms. Schwarz said she could take out the part about the free trees. She asked Dr. Baker about the trees and he was conducive enough to say that he could give out trees. If that is not what they are supposed to be doing legally, then they won't do that and they will just have an educational presentation like they have done before. She said she previously gave out trees donated by him, but she didn't say where they came from. She reiterated they don't have to give out trees. They invited him to help him move his mission along and to talk about it. She said she could cancel, or she could get a different speaker.

Mr. Roe said the line is when he converts it to a satisfaction of his needs. Ms. Schwarz said then they don't have to do that.

Ms. Schwarz stated she would cancel this program and back-off and they can decide as a Commission on what they are going to do with Dr. Baker.

Ms. Haynes said it seems to her when they bring in someone to present any program, they are somewhat endorsing it out the gate because they have invited them there.

Mrs. Emerson talked about the difference between sponsoring and partnering and allowing them to participate. She said as long as they don't hand out his trees, or allow him to say that this meets his requirement, then they went forward with their endorsement of his basic principles without partnering.

Mrs. Dussault said that makes sense. She commented that it is very distressing to her to see that there is his intent of doing what he wants to do. Ms. Schwarz said it is not on him.

Mrs. Dussault said this is her opinion. She thinks that if she wants to continue to have this program, then the third paragraph should be omitted entirely. Mrs. Booth disagreed. She thinks it is a legitimate description of the program and she thinks just striking "free native Oak trees will be available" will be enough.

Ms. Schwarz said she can't speak for him because he is not here. She said he is not the bad guy and that he is very adamant about the education. She said if she needs to reword her words, she will. She understands that she doesn't want to have him as a specific ongoing program because it would look like they were aligned with him, but she thinks it is valid for them to get this message out. She thinks it is a good program, but she wants to do it the right way and doesn't want any impropriety.

Mrs. Booth commented that they changed their Resolution to allow them to spend money on the irrigation of plants. She wondered if there was any way that they could expand this Commission's purpose. If they feel that this Commission is valuable to the community and needs publicity and one of

the ways they want to do that is by offering educational programs and sponsoring different organizational programs they believe in, then it is that something that they could take to City Council.

Mrs. Dussault said sure. Mrs. Booth said it seems like they keep coming up against this where they feel they need to get the word out, but they cannot. Mrs. Dussault said what they keep coming up against is the law. She said if she wants to write something and present it and they vote to take it to City Council, the City Council could consider it or do whatever they want. Right now, what they have is what they can and cannot do. She pointed out to get the irrigation provisions changed took six (6) months.

Ms. Haynes said the Commission sits to advise the City Council. Its main purpose is not to educate the public. Certain entities exist to educate the public, but that is not their mission. This Commission advises the City Council about tree and beautification matters within the City. They could ask whether that could be expanded. She explained that Commissions are a focused group of people who are brought together with their various expertise to advise the City Council.

Mrs. Dussault agreed. If in fact Mrs. Booth wants to put together something for them to look at it, they will see if they want to take it to City Council. She does support Dr. Baker's program, but she doesn't want them to be so involved that they lose sight of what their job is here. And if it is perceived that they are pushing a program, people will question their integrity and also there will be a plethora of other entities looking to be promoted and sponsored by them. She said they need to stay within the parameters of their jobs.

Ms. Haynes explained the City of Vero Beach is a Tree City USA member based on all of the parameters that it has, including tree maintenance, tree planting, and having a Tree Commission.

Mrs. Dussault commented that sponsoring the program they have been discussing is not part of being a Tree City USA. Ms. Schwarz said the library program it is as far as education goes.

Mrs. Dussault said she thinks her program has done very well. She has brought in people to speak on education, which is fine. What alarmed her is when she saw "native trees will be available," because she knows what his program is and that is different. She can't do it if in fact they are sponsoring the program and the program is fulfillment of their prerequisite.

Mrs. Emerson asked if there was a way that they could restructure this event so it is still educational of something they endorse for beautification purposes without running afoul of anything.

Mrs. Dussault said Dr. Baker needs to make it absolutely clear in his presentation that in order to receive a tree every attendee will have to take a separate seminar and that no trees will be available at the end of this seminar.

Ms. Schwarz reiterated that she is the one who brought it up. She asked if the Commission should write him an email specifically stating that.

Mrs. Dussault suggested she ask Dr. Baker to put in writing what he plans to do at this event. Mrs. Emerson pointed out that the program is October 17th and they won't be able to discuss it at a meeting again before then. If they want to discuss restructuring it to reflect what they expect to happen, that would be something they would need to address today.

Mrs. Robinson commented that Dr. Baker just left the country for a couple weeks.

Mrs. Booth made a motion that they accept the article written by Ms. Schwarz in regards to the library program on October 17, 2019 in its entirety except for the line in the third paragraph to be stricken, *Free native live Oak trees will be available*. Ms. Schwarz seconded the motion.

The motion died with a 2-2 vote, with Mrs. Booth voting yes, Mrs. Robinson no, Ms. Schwarz yes, and Mrs. Dussault no.

Mrs. Booth suggested they postpone this for a month and put it on next month agenda.

Ms. Schwarz added that they should invite Dr. Baker as well, so he can speak for himself. She said she would cancel the program.

Ms. Schwarz made a motion that she cancel the October 17th education/information program at the library and they invite Dr. Baker to come and speak about what his input will be and what his program actually will be so they can vote on it and have everyone here so they have all the information at the same time. Mrs. Booth seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0, with Mrs. Booth voting yes, Mrs. Robinson yes, Ms. Schwarz yes, and Mrs. Dussault yes.

Ms. Schwarz said that Marsha Littlejohn again told her that any of them could go on her radio program. She asked if they would need to have to have a format voted on before they do the program. She said this is for on-going advertisement of whatever they're going to do, such as the Beautification weekend or the library programs.

Mrs. Booth said she thinks it is a great idea to be doing this, but they keep coming up against this fine line and she thinks it would be best to hold off for now. Ms. Schwarz said she is not going to do a Marsha Littlejohn show right now, but she is asking for future terms.

Mrs. Booth said she would love for her to be able to do that.

Mrs. Dussault said she thinks anything that comes out of this Commission that is public information might need City Council approval, but even if it doesn't, it certainly needs an affirmative vote of this Board.

Mrs. Emerson reminded them that individual members, not speaking as members, could go on that show. She could mention that she is a member, but that she is not speaking for the Board.

Ms. Schwarz felt if she went on her show, it would be on behalf of the Tree and Beautification Commission and that would be the only reason she would.

Ms. Schwarz said the other thing she wanted to bring up is that they are the Hibiscus City, but people ask where the Hibiscus are. She doesn't know what their input should be with that as the Tree and Beautification Commission, but she agreed and wondered where they are. She said they are the Hibiscus City, but they are not prevalent everywhere and so she didn't know what to tell them. Mrs. Dussault commented that they could tell them to plant a Hibiscus.

Ms. Haynes said they didn't need to tell them anything except maybe give them her number because she is the Grounds Maintenance Manager and they are the ones that do the planting. She said there did use to be more Hibiscus in town, but when they get a freeze here, the Hibiscus die because they are not in a tropical zone. She mentioned some of the places they have Hibiscus around the City. She said if they have questions or people ask them questions, they should ask her. She commented that no one has ever asked her where the Hibiscus are.

Ms. Schwarz said they were people from out of town at the Hibiscus festival that were asking her.

Mrs. Dussault said the answer is that they die when it gets cold. Ms. Haynes added that they are high maintenance and they don't do a lot of high maintenance planting. She added that there are a lot of them at Royal Palm Pointe.

Mrs. Dussault thanked Mrs. Emerson and said they do appreciate her being here.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

A) Next Meeting Date – October 17, 2019

The next meeting of the Tree and Beautification Commission is scheduled for October 17, 2019.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

/hm