
TREE & LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MINUTES

On this the 12TH day of October 2023, the Tree and Landscape Committee of the City of Rockport held a Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at Rockport Service Center, 2751 SH 35 Bypass, Rockport, Texas and notice of meeting giving time, date and subject having been posted as described in V.T.C.A., Government Code § 551.041.

Members Present

Shelly Steckler-Chairperson
Laura Denham
Karen Rester
Linda Frank
Andrea Hattman-Council Liaison

Members Absent

Carla Rinche-Belaire
Ginger Easton Smith

Staff Members Present

Carey Dietrich, Asst Director Bldg. & Dev, Community Planner, Building Official
Tara Doyle, Building and Development Technician
Judy Emerson, Code Enforcement
Belinda Garcia, Administrative Assistant
David Lowell, Building Inspector
Robert Decker, Building Inspector
Mike Donoho, Public Works & Bldg. & Dev Director

Guest(s) Present

Three (3)

Call to Order

1. Chairperson Steckler called the meeting to order at approximately 5:35 p.m.

Workshop Agenda

Citizen to be heard Kathy Bason (The Plant Lady) gave a presentation for tree purchase discounts.

2. Deliberate and act on the September 14, 2023 minutes as presented.

Chairperson Steckler asked for motion to accept minutes. Discussion regarding previous meeting verbiage concerning the appointment of a new Committee Member and resignation of Member Hassinger. Motion to approve after staff review made by Member Laura Denham. Member Linda Frank seconded the motion. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

3. Hear, deliberate, and act on a Tree Survey presented for a Stripes Store located at 3588 SH 35 Bypass, also known as Lot 1-R and 5, Block 1 Kokomo Subdivision. **Representatives for the project attended via Zoom – Jamie Hora and George Willett. Discussion of mitigation fees, tree sizes, and possibility of saving trees. Chairperson Steckler asked for a motion for staff to negotiate with developer to save trees and plant additional**

trees. Motion made by Member Linda Frank. Member Laura Denham seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Community Planner Carey Dietrich spoke.

Director Mike Donoho spoke.

4. Discussion, Consideration, and action on items to be presented to City Council at the regular Council Meeting of October 24, 2023;

a. Ordinance Revision to include educational items in allowed expenditures; **Discussion of Code Enforcement of trees to be pruned, educational items, and changing landscape approved species. Request from Committee to staff to research other municipalities tree mitigation fees and provide recommendations for changing fees. Motion to recommend approval by Council of ordinance revisions as presented made by Member Linda Frank. Member Laura Denham seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

b. Closure of E Main Street on Saturday, November 11, 2023; **Slated for October 24th Council meeting.**

c. Proclamation by Mayor for week of November 3 – 11, 2023; **Proclamation sent to Council for approval.**

Community Planner Carey Dietrich spoke.

Director Mike Donoho spoke.

5. Update on ongoing projects and Arbor Day preparations;

a. 802 Enterprise landscaping; **Landscaping almost completed; full mitigation fee paid.**

b. Trees ordered – arrival date; **To be delivered October 31st.**

c. Arbor Day T-shirts – Goin Coastal; **Shirts available for \$18.**

d. Billboard advertising dependent on Ordinance Revision; **1st Council reading on the 24th.**

6. Discussion, consideration, and action regarding a potential donation by FedEx through application submitted with Arbor Day Foundation. **Discussion regarding application process grant award. Notification will be made to Council the grant was awarded.**

Community Planner Carey Dietrich spoke.

Director Mike Donoho spoke.

7. Discussion, consideration, and action regarding Historic Tree Naming in honor of Ray Little. **Motion for recommendation to approve naming the tree at East Cedar and Magnolia after legal approval made by Member Denham and seconded by Member Rester. Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Director Mike Donoho spoke.

8. Discussion, consideration, and action regarding the Rockport Arbor Day Event Prep/Plan. **Tree giveaway is October 20th. Discussion of distribution of flyers and invitations. Kickoff**

Party discussed. Agenda for events being finalized. Next meeting scheduled for the 26th has been cancelled.

Community Planner Carey Dietrich spoke.

9. Adjourn.

MOTION:

Motion to adjourn. Chairperson Steckler made the motion to adjourn. Member Laura Denham seconded the motion.

10. Adjournment.

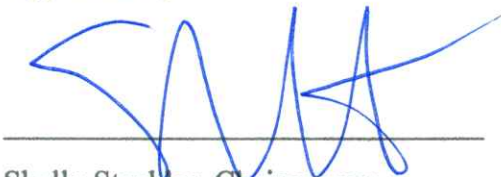
There being no further business, Chairperson Steckler adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:35 p.m.

Prepared By:



Belinda Garcia, Administrator Coordinator

Approved By:



Shelly Steckler, Chairwoman