

TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING - JUNE 6, 2017 - 4:30 P.M.

CoM MEETING ROOM, 1ST FLOOR, GOVERNMENT PLAZA

MEMBERS:

X	Dr. Maurice Holt, Chair
X	Terry Plauche, Vice-Chair
X	William Rooks, Sec/Treasurer
	Dr. Rip Pfeiffer
X	Cleve Formwalt
	Jesse McDaniel
X	Evan Cox

STAFF:

	Parks and Recreation	Matthew Capps
X	Forestry	Peter Toler
X	Alabama Power	Eric Garrett
X	Planning & Zoning	Richard Olsen

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:36 P.M. and noted that the number of members present represented a quorum.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Rooks presented the Treasurer's Report with an ending balance of \$20,354.57 after an \$800.00 donation from Michael Blankenship.

A motion was made by Mr. Plauche, with second by Mr. Formwalt, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Chair announced that the meeting was a special meeting with no permits on the agenda. The meeting was called to discuss a request for Medal of Honor Park. He turned the floor over to Councilmember Bess Rich.

Ms. Rich presented a display of the new playground express constructed at Medal of Honor Park. She stated that the original playground equipment was installed in 1996 and parts and accessories that fit the original equipment could not be ordered, and it didn't meet safety standards. Because of the new rubberized surfacing, they had to remove the surrounding pine trees. They wanted to add the final touch by putting back as many trees and shrubs as they could, she hoped that the Tree Commission would help with a gift to fund the project.

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She introduced the project's designer, Jim Crowe,

Mr. Crowe presented the landscape plan for the project.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rooks, with second by Mr. Plauche, to approve a gift of \$5,180.00 to purchase the trees to be planted at Medal of Honor Park.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Formwalt stated that the Commission had spent money on planting trees, but they also needed to spend some money on saving existing trees. He stated that if the City could not budget the money to fertilize trees, the Commission should work to identify trees around town that needed help.

Mr. Toler stated that he has identified four live oak trees on Government Street that need some TLC, and he was going to set aside a day to drive around and identify more such trees and present the data to the Commissioners. He further stated that there are some termite issues with a number of trees, and he would like to be more proactive about preserving these trees. From a structural liability standpoint, he would like to make these trees an asset to the public and not a liability.

Dr. Holt and Mr. Plauche agreed with assessing the trees and reviewing the information brought back to the Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Olsen thanked the Commission Members, on behalf of Councilperson Rich, for expediting the Medal of Honor Park request and announced that the regular Tree Commission meeting for June was cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 P.M.