

**TREE COMMISSION AGENDA**

**JULY 21, 2015 - 5:30 P.M.**

**PARKS AND RECREATION HEADQUARTERS**

**MEMBERS**

X	Dr. Maurice Holt, Vice-Chair
	Dr. Rip Pfeiffer
	Cleve Formwalt
X	Jesse McDaniel
X	Ben Cummings
X	William Rooks
X	Terry Plauche

**STAFF**

X	Urban Forestry	Gerard McCants
X	Alabama Power	Blake Jarrett
X	Planning	Richard Olsen

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** A motion was made by Mr. Rooks and seconded by Mr. Cummings to approve the Treasurer’s Report of a balance of \$10,454.57, with no income or expenditures.

**PERMIT REQUEST:**

<b>1</b>	<p><b>P-2015-14</b> Bruce Ligon 2417 Huffman Drive East (East side of Huffman Drive East, at Huffman Drive South, extending East to Knollwood Drive) Remove 54” Live Oak located in the Knollwood Drive right-of-way</p> <p>Mr. Ligon, 2417 Huffman Drive East, spoke on his behalf. He stated that he would like to remove a 54” Water Oak that is in the right-of-way. He has had to replace his fence twice due to damage from the tree and it has damaged the fence again.</p> <p>Mr. McCants stated that he cannot say that the tree’s health is in decline, but you can see where the tree is continuing to grow and causing damage. He stated that the tree will probably continue to cause more damage in the future, but for now it is in good health.</p> <p>Mr. Cummings asked the age of the tree and what its general lifespan would be.</p> <p>Mr. McCants responded that it was 30-40 years old and the lifespan was 40-</p>
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	<p>50 years.</p> <p>Mr. Plauche asked Mr. Ligon how long he lived at the residence.</p> <p>Mr. Ligon responded he had live there for about 10-12 years.</p> <p>A motion was made by Mr. Cummings, with second by Mr. McDonald to approve the above reference application, subject to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Expenses to be borne by the applicant.</li></ol> <p>The motion carried.</p>
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**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Olsen stated that the election of officers will be held at the next meeting. He also noted that the Secretary and Treasurers position could be combined.

Mr. Rooks asked about training that now the board is set. He also mentioned that it may be a good idea to put out a quick guide of ideal trees for Mobile.

Mr. Jarrett stated that Alabama Power does have a brochure and they are revamping it and it will be going to print soon.

Mr. Olsen stated that theoretically anything planted in the right-of-way should going through the Right-of-way Department. He stated that education is important, especially for the right-of-way with the Tree Commission; it would be good to make suggestions for type of species that are appropriate and where homeowners should plant them on their property.

Mr. McCants asked Mr. Plauche what is opinion is regarding Popcorn and Camphor trees.

Mr. Plauche stated he does not believe Popcorn and Camphor trees should be planted; he stated that Bradford Pear trees are in the same category.

Mr. Cummings asked Mr. Jarrett if Alabama Power's permit allows them to cut only dangerous trees or does it grant you the capability to cut down other trees as well.

Mr. Jarrett responded that it pretty much gives them the right to do what they need to do.

Mr. Plauche stated that he feels as if Alabama Power revels in taking down trees; they hire outside companies that do not have training and get carried away.

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Mr. Jarrett stated that it goes back to the right tree and the right place. He also noted that the companies hired are highly trained to cut around power lines and that Alabama Power is here to protect and preserve trees.

**Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 6:19.