

MOBILE TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

NOVEMBER 19, 2019 - 4:30 P.M.

OLD PRE-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1ST FLOOR, GOVERNMENT PLAZA

MEMBERS

	1	Dr. Maurice Holt
X	2	Jesse McDaniel, Chair
	3	
X	4	Teresa Tessner
X	5	Evan Cox
X	6	William Rooks, Sec/Treasurer
X	7	Terry Plauche, Vice-Chair

STAFF

X	Urban Forestry	Peter Toler
	Alabama Power	Eric Garrett
	Planning & Zoning	Margaret Pappas
X	Planning & Zoning	Bert Hoffman
X	Legal	Cherlina Monteiro

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rooks presented the Treasurer's Report. He stated that the beginning balance as of August 31, 2019 was \$27,174.57. Donations were made by David Crowder for \$200.00, by New Hope Baptist Church for \$5000.00 and by Rich's Car Wash for \$400.00, leaving an ending balance as of October 31, 2019 of \$32,774.57.

PERMIT REQUESTS

The Chair noted that no permit requests were received per the agenda. He questioned why there seemed to be less permit requests directed to the Tree Commission than had previously come before them. Discussion ensued regarding jurisdiction over trees in the right of way and procedures for evaluation and disposition of requests for trimming and removal of the trees in the right of way. Mr. Toler agreed to provide the Commission with a report on 311 requests received and the disposition of such requests at future meetings. Ms. Monteiro confirmed that, in the case of emergency removals, the Urban Forester was required to notify the Commission within 30 days after removal rather than prior to removal.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Committee reports

i. Bylaws Committee – Standing Rules and Bylaws

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rooks to adopt the Standing Rules and Bylaws as presented by the Bylaws Committee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tessner. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Draft 2020 Application and Meeting Schedule

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Plauche, with second by Mr. Cox, to adopt the proposed 2020 Application and Meeting Schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

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C. Update – TIGER Project

Ms. Tessner asked about specific changes in location of planting some live oaks and how they might ensure that the trees have proper space, planting and care for them to survive otherwise there was no use planting them. Mr. Toler stated that he was unaware of the specific changes she asked about, but he has been working closely with project managers and commended their work methods.

D. Discussion of Minutes Backlog

After discussion of the present status of minutes preparation, Mr. Rooks made a motion, with second by Ms. Tessner, that minutes be transcribed with the most recent meetings first and work backwards. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Discussion of potential changes to interface with Tree Commission

The Chair initiated discussion regarding potential changes to City staff support for the Tree Commission. Mr. Hoffman provided background regarding current and previous staff support, and Mr. Toler discussed the possible timeline for transition from Planning and Zoning to Urban Forestry.

F. Request to City Council asking for appointment to replace Cleve Formwalt (District 3)

The Chair expressed concern over the vacancy left on the Commission by Mr. Formwalt's resignation. After discussion, the Commission members agreed to ask Mr. Formwalt, Mr. Toler, and their individual Council representatives for recommendations of individuals who would be good candidates to serve with the intent of providing that list to Councilman Small to facilitate an appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.