



**Minutes
Town of Lake Park, Florida
Tree Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 6:00 PM
Town Hall Commission Chamber,
535 Park Avenue, Lake Park, Florida 33403**

The Tree Board met for the purpose of a regular session on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:06 p.m. Present were Board Member Brady Drew, Pamela Frazier, and Cynthia Grey. Town staff included Community Development Director Nadia DiTommaso, and Town Clerk Vivian Mendez.

Town Clerk Mendez performed the roll call and announced that Board member Viera had resigned earlier in the day. She then led the pledge of allegiance.

Appointment of a Chair:

Motion: Board Member Frazier moved to appoint Board Member Brady Drew as Chair; Board Member Grey seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Board Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Board Member Drew	X		
Board Member Frazier	X		
Board Member Grey	X		

Motion Passed 3-0

Appointment of a Vice-Chair:

Motion: Board Member Frazier moved to appoint Board Member Cynthia Grey as Vice-Chair; Chair Drew seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Board Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Board Member Drew	X		
Board Member Frazier	X		
Board Member Grey	X		

Motion Passed 3-0

Consent Agenda:

- 1. December 8, 2020 Tree Board Meeting Minutes.**
- 2. January 12, 2021 Tree Board Meeting Minutes.**

Motion: Board Member Frazier moved to approved the Consent Agenda; Board Member Grey seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Vote on Motion:

Board Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Board Member Drew	X		
Board Member Frazier	X		
Board Member Grey	X		

Motion Passed 3-0

New Business:

3. Review/Discussion of the Tree Board Ordinance of other Municipalities.

Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that she would like to discuss items 3 and 4 at the same time. She explained that because of internal discussion with the Town Manager earlier today, as it related to the research that was included in the agenda packet, the nature of the discussions included:

1) The responses staff received from other municipalities regarding the Tree Boards, only two responded. The City of Lake Worth Beach and the Village of Wellington have structured their Ordinances in such a way that the Tree Board works with qualified staff or contractors to develop an Annual Work Plan for the maintenance of the Trees in their municipalities. The other municipalities that responded stated that their Planning & Zoning Board conducts the functions of the Tree Board. The Town Manager suggested that the recommendation from staff, if the Tree Board agrees, would be to conduct a joint meeting with the Town Commission to discuss where we take the Tree Board from here.

Board Member Frazier asked for clarification the purpose of conducting a joint meeting with the Town Commission. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that the purpose would be to determine the responsibilities duties of the Tree Board. She explained that due to the hesitation depicted by the Board in previous meetings, staff was recommending the joint meeting with the Town Commission who could direct staff to structure the Tree Board Ordinance in such a way that it would be conducive to the Tree Board Members vision of the Board. Board Member Frazier asked how and when the Tree Board members would decide the structure of the Tree Board. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that the Board members would do that separately and then discuss it collectively during their next meeting. The Tree Board would meet on March 9th to discuss their individual ideas and visions for the duties and responsibilities of the Board and then speak with the Town Commission on March 17th during a joint meeting.

Board Member Grey asked if other municipalities had responded to the request. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that only two responded and their language was part of tonight's agenda packet.

Chair Drew stated that the two Ordinances provided had very similar language to the Town of Lake Park Tree Board Ordinances, with the exception of a Tree survey. He felt that the Board did not have new ideas for Ordinance language to discuss with the Town Commission. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that staff was prepared to move forward with the current Tree Board Ordinance and guide the Tree Board with the Tree inventory and the Annual Work Plan, we just do not know if that

was the best next steps or if an Ordinance change really needs to happen. She stated that the only way to have those discussions would be to conduct a joint meeting between the Tree Board and the Town Commission.

Board Member Grey heard that the Town received a grant to re-envision Kelsey Park. She asked if the Tree Board would be involved in the re-envisioning efforts. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that there are workshops scheduled to repurpose/reimagine Lake Shore Park. The process was in its very early stages and staff was not sure what it would turn into at this point.

Board Member Frazier asked to have time to revisit reviewing the Town's Tree Board Ordinance, but would like an opportunity to discuss with the Board. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that the next Tree Board meeting was scheduled for March 9th, one week before the join Town Commission Tree Board meeting. We can come back and discuss the Board's ideas before the joint meeting.

Board Member Frazier asked what staff would do to promote more membership for the Board. Town Clerk Mendez explained that she would send an email to the Town Commission announcing the vacancy on the Tree Board and ask that they solicit for members. She stated that the Board Membership applications are on the Town's website. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that in order to have a quorum that Board would need three members. If any member were absent, the meeting was canceled. Board Member Frazier asked if they were regular or alternate members. Town Clerk Mendez explained that they were all regular members. The Board has four openings for membership, two regular, two alternate.

4. Review the Town of Lake Park Preferred Plant List.

Board Member Frazier asked if they needed to review, the Preferred Plant List during tonight's meeting. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that the Board was not quite there yet. She explained that first the duties and responsibilities would need to be discussed and established before we could move into the Preferred Plant List and all the other duties. Town Clerk Mendez established that the Town's Preferred Plant List was included as part of the agenda packet.

Board Member Drew was struggling with the hesitation since the Board has reviewed the language for the past two-months. He stated that he was ready to move forward with the way the Ordinance was currently written. Board Member Frazier pointed out that the last time this Board had met was over 15-years ago and she wanted to make sure that she had reviewed the Ordinance thoroughly.

Town Clerk Mendez explained that she reviewed the Tree Board meeting minutes from over 20-years ago and the duties and responsibilities that they were carrying out were very different from what the Ordinance stated. She explained that the minutes reflected that the Tree Board was more of a Beautification Board. At that time, the Board would select the Property of the Month; they would paint the street markers around Town and did not appear to be staff driven focused. Community Development Director DiTommaso

reiterated why now was the time to revisit the Town Code and make sure that everyone was on the same page before moving forward.

Board Member Grey asked if they should define in the Ordinance what tree do to the environments, including providing shade to consider all the other aspects of what trees would add to those environments. Community Development Director DiTommaso explained that the Town Code provides a property owner what they can and cannot do, however, it could encourage a Preferred List of Plantings. Chair Drew was in favor of maintaining the Tree Board Code language and expanding on the beautification part of the responsibilities. He was in favor of meeting next month with the Town Commission.

Board Member Frazier asked if the Tree Board would be involved with the Town's street lighting, since many of the streets are dark at night due to shade trees. Community Development Director DiTommaso stated that she was not sure that street lighting would be a function of the Tree Board, however, that would be a good topic to discuss with the Town Commission because they may see it as a function of the Tree Board.

The Board discussed the Annual Work Plan and what it would entail.

5. Completion of Task – Timeline Discussion.

The next steps would be to meet on March 9, 2021 to discuss any further ideas and then have a joint meeting with the Town Commission on March 17, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Board Member Drew had no additional comments.

Board Member Frazier had no additional comments.

Board Member Grey had no additional comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, and by unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

By Dr

Chair

Vivian Mendez

Town Clerk, Vivian Mendez, MMC



Approved on this 9 of March, 2021