



Agenda

Town of Lake Park

Tree Board

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 6:00 P.M.
Town Hall Commission Chamber,
535 Park Avenue, Lake Park, FL 33403

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED, that if any interested person desires to appeal any decision of the Town Commission, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, such interested person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. *Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Town Clerk's office by calling 881-3311 at least 48 hours in advance to request accommodations.*

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Brady Drew | Chair |
| Cynthia Grey | Vice-Chair |
| Pamela Frazier | Board Member |

A. **CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL**

B. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

C. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. February 9, 2021 Tree Board Meeting Minutes.

D. **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Review Board Members suggested Tree Board Language.

3. Discussion about a Joint Town Commission/Tree Board Meeting.

E. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

This time is provided for addressing items that do not appear on the Agenda. Please complete a comment card and provide it to the Agency Clerk so speakers may be announced. Please remember comments are limited to a TOTAL of three minutes.

F. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

G. **STAFF COMMENTS**

H. **ADJOURNMENT**

The next scheduled Tree Board Meeting will be conducted on April 13, 2021

Consent Agenda

TAB 1



**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.

Chair

Town Clerk, Vivian Mendez, MMC

Town Seal

Approved on this _____ of _____, 2021

New Business

TAB 2



Lake Park Tree Board

Proposed Mission and Objectives
Brady Drew

Overview

Review of Existing Ordinances

Proposed Mission Statement and Objectives

Plan for Achieving Objectives

Review of Town Ordinances

Lake Park already has robust and detailed tree ordinances

Chapter 2 - Article IV - Division 3:

- Establishes tree board
- Defines tree board responsibilities

Chapter 4:

- Tree planting and pruning
- Defines preferred trees and shrubs

Section 34:

- Tree care, removal, replacement
- Swale planting/maintenance
- Defines nuisance trees

Section 78:

- Landscaping standards
- Defines non-native plants
- Protection / recognition of existing trees

Proposed Tree Board Mission

Aligned with Town Ordinance 34-1

Promote the benefits that can be derived from a healthy environment and an abundance of naturally indigenous plant life by pursuing laudable tree planting and preservation objectives:

1. Ensure the continued growth of the existing native indigenous tree canopies within the town
2. Provide the community with the adequate green and open space and the health and safety benefits derived from native plant life and the active use of a clean living environment
3. Advocate for energy conservation through the productive use of natural resources
4. Preserve and restore land via the eradication of invasive nonnative plants, weeds, and other non-indigenous plant species

Ensure the continued growth of the existing native indigenous tree canopies within the town

Objective #1

Review tree care guide and recommend updates

Provide a method for residents to report tree and shrub issues/opportunities, and follow up on feedback

Identify canopy potential from aerial imagery, and advocate for a canopy cover goal

Provide the community with the adequate green space and the health and safety benefits derived from native plant life

Objective #2

Partner with other organizations and obtain grants to fund tree planting

Swale and public park improvements:

- White street marker painting
- Memorial / Adopt-a-Tree plantings
- Mulching

K-12 outreach pertaining to trees and forests

Arbor Day celebration

Advocate for energy conservation through the productive use of natural resources

Objective #3

Publish planting guide to promote bioswale transformation and drought-tolerant landscaping

Spread awareness of existing guidelines for conserving irrigation water

Partner with other organizations to provide water-saving hardware (rain barrels, automatic water-shutoff systems, etc) to residents

Preserve and restore land via the eradication of invasive and nonnative plants

Objective #4

Review preferred, non-native, and nuisance plant lists, and recommend updates

Sample natural area / parks for tree condition and invasive species

Coordinate volunteers for natural area cleanups

Next Steps

Review and plan for deliverables as required by tree board ordinances

Tree Inventory:

- Update ordinance to allow aerial survey of canopy coverage instead of requiring detailed survey of individual trees

Care guide:

- Review current guide and recommend updates

Annual work plan:

- Draft plan with steps that will be completed to meet board mission/objectives

Submission of plan and expenses:

- Submit plan and expenses not already planned for by public works department

Special matters and questions:

- Coordinate with town commissioners at workshop

Thanks!

Brady Drew

bradypdrew@gmail.com

Lake Park Tree Board

<https://www.lakeparkflorida.gov/>



The Tree Board Ordinance Suggestions

Dear Vivian,

I am offering a few suggestions to be considered in adding to the Tree Board Town Code language. Beside stating the duties and responsibilities of the Tree Board, I think it is fitting to mention it's importance by having a statement of purpose/overview which might also help in explaining it to others

The Lake Park Tree board is aware that trees have emerged as a promising way out of the climate crisis we're in. The Board is also consciousness that trees grow the economy, people are attracted to live, work and invest in green surrounding. Trees protect the future because for the first time in history the number of people with homes in cities will outstrip those living the the country. Therefore they have become an even more vital component of urban life which our board will respect and protect for the future.

In the broadest possible way the Board will show and be mindful of how trees benefit our community's environment and to the world we share by:

1. The process by which trees absorb carbon dioxide as they grow while the carbon that they store in their wood helps slow the rate of global warming.
2. reduce wind speeds
3. cool the air
4. prevent flooding,
5. increase property values,
6. it's effects of greenery on health and productivity.
7. strengthen our community by adding distinctive character of a place and encourage local pride for children to play in and discover their sense of adventure.