

**Parks and Parkways Commission
October 1, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Discon and the secretary called roll.

Present: Scott Discon, Lee Frederick, Anne Marie Fargason, Karin Crosby, Marilyn Osborne and Nancy Clark

Absent: Eric McQuiston

Also Present: Catherine Casanova, Landscape Inspector

Ms. Clark moved to open the agenda to discuss cutting, sweeping and edging and the Tyler Thomas Park, seconded by Ms. Crosby and was unanimously approved.

New Business:

Updates on Florida Street Streetscape plantings

Ms. Osborne had spoken with Matt Bennett about planting live oaks by Pelican Athletic Club and Liberty Self-Storage. He suggested a row of live oak trees be planted by the open field as well as one side of Meadowbrook Drive. The Village Shopping Center was improved with numerous trees and would not be a good location. The Post Office had been agreeable to planting and Ms. Casanova would follow up with them.

Mr. Discon talked to Ms. Scott who agreed to solicit each block in Old Mandeville for street trees to recreate the canopies. Ms. Clark suggested planting the corners on Marigny Avenue as this planting was already approved. Mr. Discon said he would solicit his neighbors on his block.

It was requested to place a notice in the Mayor's ebriefs each two weeks until Arbor Day. It was also requested to place a notice on the water bill.

Ms. Clark stated that the live oak tree gator bags had been refilled.

Marigny Edible Garden

Ms. Casanova said the plan was forwarded to Cleco for final approval. She would then mail an RFP after Cleco's approval. It would then be two to three weeks for a November planting.

Mr. Discon asked about the tree removal. Ms. Casanova said Cleco agreed to remove the trees and the Department of Public Works had a stump grinder. The mulch would be used on the path. Ms. Casanova stated Cleco usually responded within a week which should be about the same time she drafted the RFP. Ms. Frederick said the first block appeared to be mostly large shrubs and the new planting would be planted around them. There were hackberries and water oaks to be removed as well as crepe myrtle trees that need trimming.

Opening of the Agenda:

Sweeping and Edging

Mr. Discon said the City had responded. Highway 190 was edged in the last week and the lakefront looked nice. There was progress being made.

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Tyler Thomas Park

Ms. Frederick asked if the planting could be installed in conjunction with the Marigny Avenue garden planting. Ms. Casanova said the Marigny Avenue project would require an RFP. She would request Mr. Brumfield schedule the planting and she would either order the plants or pick them up. Ms. Crosby said Dodie Marshall, previous commission member, had mentioned that the other two ministers would like to hear about the plan. If she needed to contact the ministers, she would take care of it. Ms. Casanova said that would be a good idea, but Mayor Villere had only requested contacting Reverend Winston. Ms. Clark suggested the planting could be in the form of an announcement. Ms. Casanova agreed reaching out to the other ministers was a good idea in case they were asked questions. Ms. Frederick suggested a newspaper article about the Marigny Avenue Edible Garden and Tyler Thomas Park Beautification. Ms. Casanova said the plan for it to be planting prior to the end of the year.

Kierr Garden

There was available space at the street for the planting of live oak trees. It was also suggested to look for tree space on Lafitte Street by the Bunny Trail with a gator bag.

Ms. Fargason said the culverted area on Monroe Street by Kleber Street had crepe myrtle and hackberry trees removed as well as a live oak tree. The commission requested a live oak tree replacement be planted, but there was a concern about the location because of the depth with the culverts. Ms. Frederick suggested planting live oak trees by the apartments by the Mandeville Elementary School.

Ms. Clark asked about the curbing by the tunnel to allow the planting of a live oak tree with gator bags.

Staff Update

- West Beach Parkway – there had been a meeting with Franklin Kyle and the staff and the City was developing a contract with him. The contract would include a plan for West Beach and the cemetery. Ms. Clark said the contract would include recreating the swale and removing the mud as safely as possible. The best way to accomplish this was to use a landscape contractor.

Ms. Fargason said the most recent pictures of West Beach Parkway showed the mud was like clay and cracking up like a desert. The clay and concrete had been removed from under the trees. Ms. Crosby asked how long it would be before Mr. Kyle began the plan. Ms. Casanova said the work would begin when the contract was signed. Ms. Casanova said the intent was for the contract to be an item on the second Council meeting in October because of advertising restrictions. The mud was not impacting the trees any further with decreasing oxygen supply.


- American Bank building – Mr. Discon asked about the replanting of the live oak tree. Ms. Casanova said she was working with Franklin Kyle as their Landscape Architect and stated that the property owner had been ill, but they were working on a plant to re-establish the landscaping. Ms. Casanova said the penalty would be replanting one tree for every 6” removed. The inch for inch replacement would be three trees. Mr. Discon said the canopy should be recreated for the street. This issue was the problem since the tree had not been replaced in almost a year. Ms. Casanova said the state made the requirements for landscaping and lighting for banks. Ms. Osborne asked how the bank could have functioned with the growth of the tree. Ms. Casanova said she did not know if a state person required the removal. Ms. Clark said the rules should be enforced since

the tree was removed without a permit. If the state stated there was a problem with the tree then there should be a donation of three live oak trees to the Street Tree Program. Mr. Discon said he wanted replanting for it to be fair across the board.

- Kierr Garden - Ms. Clark said there had been a Master Gardener work day at the Lange House where they weeded and it looked better. Ms. Casanova said she felt the money for the Butterfly Garden was appropriated. She had purchased milk weed and gaura that would be planted. Ms. Crosby said pineapple guava was an early bloom for turtles and butterflies with edible leaves. There must be two plants to pollinate and produce fruit. Ms. Casanova said Ms. Frederick had prepared a list and some of the species would be purchased. The bed was now covered with bees and butterflies. It was decided to plant guava along the fence, and it could be trained to look like a hedge.

Ms. Crosby moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Osborne and was unanimously approved.



Lori Spranley, Secretary

Scott Discon, Chairman
Parks and Parkways Commission

