

Trees, Parks and Recreation Board (TPR) – City of Oxford, GA

Minutes of Meeting **February 12, 2019**

Community Room, Oxford City Hall

At 5:00 PM, Chairman Ready called the meeting to order.

Attendance

Present – Members: Cheryl Ready, Anderson Wright, Laura McCanless, and Mike Besaw.

Matt Pepper, City Manager

Jody Reid, City Superintendent

Absent – Members: Sallie Robinson, Teresa Welch, and Amber Moon.

Seth Hawkins, GUFC Community Forester

Beryl Budd, City Arborist, GUFC

Agenda for meeting: Upon motion of Ms. McCanless, seconded by Mr. Besaw, the agenda for the February 12, 2019 meeting was adopted. The vote was 4-0.

Minutes of meeting December 11, 2018: Upon motion of Mr. Besaw, seconded by Mr. Wright, the minutes for the meeting held on December 11, 2018 were adopted. The vote was 4-0.

Reports and Updates:

1. Mitchell Street Park – Anderson Wright reported that the city planted 3-4 dogwood trees in the park. In addition, he has been working with Tommy Ballard to negotiate another 10-year lease on the property.
2. George Street Park (Split Rail Fencing) – Mr. Reid will obtain a price to replace the fence before the Board's next meeting.
3. Asbury Street Park – Mr. Pepper updated the Board members on the progress of the park.
4. Yarbrough Oak Replanting Possibilities – Jeff Wearing will visit the Board members at their next meeting to discuss the plans to safely replant the Yarbrough Oak saplings on city property.
5. Longstreet Circle – Ms. Ready shared with the Board members that the city has begun receiving bids to purchase the property located at 101 Longstreet Circle.
6. 6153 Emory Street – The city received a bid of \$28,875 from Designed Installations to construct the new welcome sign at 6153 Emory Street. Given the high price to complete the work, the Board members decided to contact other contractors. Ms. Ready and Ms. McCanless will send the contact information for other contractors who may want to bid on the project to Mr. Pepper.

Pruning Issues: Mr. Pepper presented the list of bidders to the Board members for this year's pruning work. He also stated that Mr. Budd recommended that the Board hire Rayfield Tree Care to complete the work for \$3,250.

Upon motion of Ms. McCanless, seconded by Mr. Besaw, the Trees, Parks and Recreation Board awarded the contract to Rayfield Tree Care for \$3,250 to complete the crown pruning work as specified in the Request for Proposals issued by the city. The vote was 4-0.

Emory Street Revitalization Plan: Mr. Budd will accompany James Johnson with Oxford College to the nursery to pick out the trees. Mr. Pepper will send Ms. Ready the sample Right-of-Entry Permission form. Since the Board members have seen a low response rate from the citizens living along Emory Street, they discussed including other areas of the city as part of the revitalization project.

Moore Street Sidewalk Project: Board members discussed the five trees that would be affected by the city's plans to construct a sidewalk on the south side of Moore Street between Haygood Avenue and Emory Street. During the discussion, Ms. Ready read Mr. Budd's recommendation for the large Willow Oak located within the Moore Street right-of-way. She will forward Mr. Budd's recommendation to all Board members. Ms. McCanless mentioned that the Planning Commission strongly recommended that the city stop the sidewalk at the raised crosswalk near Oxford College's soccer field.

Upon motion of Ms. McCanless, seconded by Mr. Besaw, the Trees, Parks and Recreation Board issued a formal recommendation to the Mayor and City Council to not continue with the sidewalk on Moore Street between Haygood Avenue and Emory Street since five trees would be removed as part of the construction. The vote was 4-0.

Concerns and Announcements:

1. Ms. Ready shared information regarding the application for the Growth Award with Board members. She will fill out Category B of the application. The other Board members will fill out the remaining sections (Categories A, C, and D).

Adjournment at 5:50 PM.

Next meeting will be April 9, 2019.