

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TREE CARE BOARD
CITY OF LIVE OAK
HELD AT THE LIVE OAK COUNCIL CHAMBERS
8001 SHIN OAK DRIVE
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018, 7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mario Ward called the Tree Care Board meeting to order on January 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Live Oak Council Chambers.

2. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Completed

3. ROLL CALL

Chairman Mario Ward
Commissioner Elizabeth Ramirez
Commissioner Micheal Teague
Commissioner Sandra Towery
Alternate Commissioner Kim Patridge
Alternate Commissioner Gary Woppert

CITY STAFF

Mark Wagster, Director of Public Works
Cathi Piotrowski, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT

Vice Chairman Cherece Smith
Commissioner Marion Easson
Commissioner Al Hollins
City Council Liaison Councilman Bob Tullgren

Chairman Ward appointed Alternate Commissioner Patridge to sit in for Commissioner Easson.
Chairman Ward appointed Alternate Commissioner Woppert to sit in for Commissioner Smith.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes from December 4, 2017.

Commissioner Teague made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by

Commissioner Towery.

Vote For: Unanimous

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and update regarding the ACORN (Area Children Organized to Replant Natives) program – Mr. Augustine Frkuska

Mr. Frkuska provided the following information to the Commission:

- 2012-2013 only two schools were using the ACORN project.
- 2017-2018 over eighty schools in five school districts are using the ACORN project.
- Students collect and identify seeds to be used.
- Use of environmental data to make decisions
- Teachers are trained by environmental experts to assist the students to plant for sustainability.
- Reforesting of public places and city parks
- The Northside ISD has gone all out with hundreds of people planting trees at their Arbor Day Event.
- Because of droughts, it is better to use seeds from native trees.
- Project ACORN is becoming recognized around the state and across the country.

Mr. Kent Page, Environmental Education Teacher came before the Commission to speak about the new program for Northside ISD. Some items of discussion:

- Program will involve working with multiple elementary schools (5th graders) and annually seed and plant 8,500 native trees per year.
- Formula for Native Plants = Play Space = share goals.
- Students collect seeds by looking up instead of down: collecting from trees that are older than 300 years old (quality seed sources).
- Other items discussed were developers, hard to grow plants like milk weed, contacting your public officials, utilizing honey bee houses, recycling trees, and incentives for developments (green builder).
- Commissioner Teague mentioned the 8,500 trees annually and where did they get all these trees? Mr. Page indicated that the seeds were collected and stored in plastic bags, and he was the keeper of the samples; an example the city of Bastrop had a huge fire, and all of their trees were destroyed, and hundreds of seeds were saved for replanting).

7. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

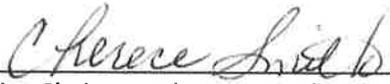
A. Commissioners, Chairman Ward: Boots & Bling is coming up.

B. Staff, No announcements

8. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Commissioner Teague made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Towery at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVED:



Vice Chairman Cherece Smith

ATTEST:



Cathi Piotrowski, Administrative Assistant