

Tree Committee Meeting

April 19, 2018

3 p.m.

Delchamps Room

Members present: Patrick Waldrop, Craig Tappan, Richard Johnson, Jo Hogan (left meeting at 4 p.m.), Paul Fontenot, Harriett Gutknecht. Gayle Fogarty took minutes. Absent: Jeff Davies, Skip Jones and Jay Robinson.

Paul Fontenot called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. The minutes from the meeting held on January 11, 2018 were reviewed and approved, 1st motion by Patrick Waldrop and 2nd by Craig Tappan and unanimously carried.

Jo Hogan informed the committee that a \$600 donation was made to the City of Fairhope by the Fairhope Garden Club on Arbor Day. She added that Paul Merchant informed her the donation would be used to purchase trees that will be planted at the Toddler's Park.

Arbor Day: Harriett Gutknecht thanked Jo Hogan, Paul Merchant, and Richard Johnson for their help with Arbor Day. She commented that she felt that everything went well and plenty of volunteers attended from Master Gardener's and Wisteria Garden Club. She shared with the committee that Mayor Wilson attended, and the beautification award portion of the program went well, she added that a microphone is needed next year. The Fairhope High School Jazz Band was unable to attend, due to a tragedy.

Patrick Waldrop commented that the extra trees were given to the City of Silverhill. There was general discussion among the committee members regarding Arbor Day. Paul Fontenot suggested to the committee to host an Arbor Day poem writing contest next year - have local high school students from creative writing classes write a poem about Arbor Day and the winner of the contest will read the poem at Arbor Day.

Jo Hogan added that she didn't see anything in the paper about the school award winners or the beautifications awards, she inquired if it was sent to the newspaper. She also added that Deacon George Yeend is retiring, and Harriett added that she is thinking of resigning from the committee. There was discussion of what the process was for a new member to added to the committee, Gayle Fogarty stated that will provide Richard Johnson an application.

Old Business: Paul Waldrop inquired about the crepe myrtle trees on Fairhope Avenue. Richard Johnson stated that there was a site-specific issue that required purring trees on Fairhope Avenue, due to safety/visibility issues. The Oak tree on Section Street was also mentioned, Richard stated that he will follow up with Paul Merchant, as they talked to Chris Francis on Arbor Day.

There no longer being a quorum, the meeting concluded at 4 p.m.