

MINUTES

BEAUTIFICATION AND TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 7, 2025

VIA ZOOM/IN PERSON

PRESIDING: John Nelson
MEMBERS PRESENT: John Nelson, Debi Ferrer
ABSENT: Chuck Gomez, Jann Oldenburg
Staff Liaison: Abigail Jara, Staff Liaison

Also in attendance:

CALL TO ORDER

Nelson called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

ROLL CALL

Executive Assistant Abigail Jara conducted roll call; Nelson, Ferrer present; Gomez, Oldenburg absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No approval of agenda, no quorum

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No approval of agenda, no quorum

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Downtown Tree Update—Michael Spaulding, Davey Tree Company

Michael Spaulding, District Manager for Davey Tree Company, provided an update on the City's tree plantings. He reported, following his presentation to the committee in August of the previous year, Davey Tree had replanted 42 trees out of the 68 originally planted. Only three trees required replacement in the spring: two from the initial planting and one newly planted tree that

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MINUTES

Beautification and Tree Committee Meeting

XXXX, 2025

Page 2 of 3

did not survive. He noted weekly watering began in March and his team has been onsite Fridays to maintain the trees. Positive feedback has been received from residents regarding the condition of the trees. Davey Tree had relinquished one of its water trucks to the City to assist with watering efforts. Mike Kassinger, Facilities Supervisor, had also been watering the trees weekly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. A wetting agent, Hydra Taine, had been applied to improve water retention in the soil. This measure, which was not included in the original contract, was taken at Davey Tree's expense to improve the long-term success of the trees. All trees, including older plantings, had been mulched for consistency.

Nelson inquired about a dead tree near the Annex. Spaulding confirmed awareness of the issue and stated the tree would be replaced in the fall.

Ferrer commented the downtown trees appeared healthier and the maintenance efforts were showing positive results.

Spaulding further reported a potential pest issue affecting some hornbeam trees, identified as possibly related to weevils. This concern did not appear detrimental at this time but suggested it may be worth discussing treatment options, such as soil applications, to ensure long-term tree health. He noted the pest presence was first observed in June and would reassess the current status.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Residential Tree Update

Jara reported approximately 15 applications had been received as of three weeks prior. She would verify the current number upon her return to the office and follow up with Ferrer. Ferrer suggested another promotional push. Jara indicated an additional effort would be made through social media and inclusion in the City's newsletter.

Other Business Discussed

Jara informed the committee she had received ODOT contact information regarding the hillside by the cruise ship dock.

A question had been asked about City providing trees on side streets like Washington. She explained Davey Tree followed a specific site plan and, due to the upcoming First Street project, additional plantings should wait until project completion. Nelson expressed interest in revisiting tree planting on Third Street near Old St. Peter's Landmark.

Nelson shared he had taken photos of Downtown Beautification Grant recipients for the City newsletter. Nelson and Oldenburg had reviewed possible locations for a sculpture but made no decisions. Ferrer will assist with this effort.

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MINUTES

Beautification and Tree Committee Meeting

XXXX, 2025

Page 3 of 3

Next Meeting: July 21, 2025

Items for Next Meeting:

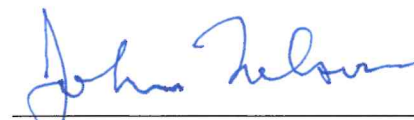
ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:27 pm.

Submitted by/

Abigail Jara, Executive Assistant

SIGNED:



John Nelson, Chair

ATTEST:



Abigail Jara, Executive Assistant

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