

*Trees, Parks, Recreation Board (TPR) – City of Oxford, GA*  
Minutes of Meeting April 14, 2015  
Courtroom, Oxford City Hall

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ready at 5:10pm

Attendance – present

Members – Cheryl Ready, LaTrelle Oliver, Anderson Wright, Andrea O’Toole  
City Manager Bob Schwartz  
Georgia Forester Seth Hawkins

Approval of Minutes for meeting of February 10, 2015

**Motion** to approve (with corrections) made by Anderson; seconded by Andrea  
Vote: Yes @4 – Cheryl Ready, LaTrelle Oliver, Andrea O’Toole, Anderson Wright.  
No @0. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda for meeting of April 14, 2015

**Motion** to approve made by Anderson Wright, seconded by Andrea O’Toole  
Unanimous approval.

Status of Work Plan 2015 (Refer to letter from Beryl)

Emory Street trees – City is watering regularly, as needed. Rain has helped.  
Pruning – the 36 young trees on entire west side of Wesley Street have been pruned by Arbor Equity. Excellent work. Other pruning will have to wait until another budget cycle. Beryl will continue to advise structural and maintenance pruning needs.

Privet removal on Wesley and Fletcher Streets

Continuing to wait until Covington buys a new mowing head that will be stored in Oxford in a reciprocal arrangement that allows its use here. Jody absent; Bob does not know current status of the arrangement.

Whatcoat Street Park – Council is considering street enhancement alternatives, which include further engineering (for additional draining as needed), new sidewalk on east side along with new street tree installations, and traffic movement. Board examined the two plans displayed in the foyer of City Hall. The roundabout plan generated the most interest from the group, aesthetically and functionally, for now and the future.

Mitchell Street Park / Rosenwald School site – Four volunteers planted the ten young dogwoods that Beryl supplied. Due to poor visibility, several were unintentionally destroyed in mowing. Replacements are going in and will be staked and flagged. New growth is emerging. The volunteers removed more invasive plants.

George Street Park – The kiosk will be power washed as scheduling and weather permit. There is no guarantee that the Forestry posters will stay dry because plastic coverings in the frames do not provide complete weatherproofing. Regarding the trash cans, the suggestion was made to remove the two existing ones and instead attach one to each of the four signage posts near the trail entrances; this would cut down on visual clutter and encourage walkers to pick up and deposit street trash in addition to any generated in the park itself. The leaning tree reported on many times previously still has not been straightened. Seth will look at it to help determine if re-setting it is possible.

2016 Arbor Day Committee – Chairman Ready recommends a committee of board members take charge of this event. She will contact Kendra Mayfield to determine if college wishes the celebration to continue jointly.

Emory Street Revitalization Plan – Chairman Ready recommends a committee of board members volunteer to implement this plan. Consensus is to offer trees to one or two homeowners and then, if successful, move forward to others. Cheryl and Andrea will visit with Grace Phillip (318 N. Emory St.) to determine her wishes. The City would require an easement for accessing private property for the required duration of installation and care.

Concerns and Announcements –

1. Chairman Ready announced that elections are long overdue and that nominations for officers will be received at the June meeting.
2. Bob Schwartz announced that the City's Oxford College intern has a web page proposal for us. Bob will send it by email for board members to look over and have comments (notes) at June meeting.

Adjournment – The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:15pm.

Next Meeting – June 9, 2015

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LaTrelle Oliver, Secretary