

Trees, Parks, Recreation Board (TPR) – City of Oxford, GA
Minutes of Meeting
February 13, 2014 (*postponed from 2-11-14 due to inclement weather*)
Upstairs Conference Room, Oxford City Hall

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ready at 5:00P.M.

Attendance

Present: All board members (Cheryl Ready, LaTrelle Oliver, Anderson Wright, Hulon Clemons, Simon Perryman); City Staff: Manager Bob Schwartz.

Absent: City Supervisor Jody Reid, Arborist Connie Head (e-mailed her report)

Approval of Minutes for January 14, 2014 meeting

Motion to approve made by Anderson Wright. Motion seconded by Hulon Clemons. Vote: 5, yes; 0, no. Motion carried.

Arbor Day preparation for celebration, 10:00-noon, Saturday, 2-15-14

1. Communication – info was sent to newspapers and Newton Federal Bank sign notified, and included in last city utilities billing; office will send another e-mail notice(reminder) to citizens tomorrow; general contact was not made with Oxford College community, nor Allen Memorial UMC, nor Debbie Bell (Newton County arborist); meeting room has been set up.
2. Refreshments – Hulon will pick up hot cocoa and donut holes from Duncan Donuts by 9:15; other goodies and materials will be provided; Cheryl will arrange refreshment table.
3. Presentations – Proclamation is ready for Mayor’s signing and reading; Joan Scales (GFC) has flag but documentation has not yet arrived (due to weather delays); the “Friend of Trees” plaque is ready and will be announced by all board members with LaTrelle as spokesperson.
4. Program – Printed program is ready; presentations are ready; Lucas Oliver will read poem; Dr. Eloise Carter’s three students from Oxford College will attend and supervise audience participants’ use of binocular microscopes, which she will deliver Friday; Connie will supply handouts for her power point presentation “Preparing Your Trees for Summer”; Connie will set up the observation tables with microscopes and tree material (leaves, twigs, roots, “tree cookies”); Beryl Budd will bring seedlings for distribution; if the Arbor Day tree (donated by Dwayne Moon, Moon’s Tree Farm, Washington, GA) has not been delivered by Friday, a stake will mark the planting site.

Reports

- A. *Work sessions for pruning and “sprucing up” Whatcoat Street right-of-way*: Bob Schwartz will check with Jody re: Connie’s earlier report of pruning needs. Connie is available to direct volunteer work on February 17, 18, 24, 28, or March 4. No action was taken by the board.
- B. Regarding *tree planting progress*, Connie reports: “21 trees have been ordered and received for Greene Street (Avondale redbuds), Mitchell Street and Watson Street (baldcypresses, October Glory red maples, blackgums), and George Street Park (1 October Glory red maple and 1 blackgum). I will continue to look for trees for George Street Park and will likely make a visit up to Kinsey Family Farm to look at the species they have in containerized trees that could be sassily planted by city staff or volunteers.”
- C. Because of Jody’s absence, there was no report on tree pruning projects completed or in progress. Oxford was fortunate during the ice storms and did not lose any trees.
- D. See Connie Head’s recent progress reports. Further, she “would like to do a Level 2 Basic Tree Risk Assessment on the (3?) large trees across from City Hall, and begin to evaluate over the next year or so all the very large trees in town for risk.”
- E. Premier Landscaping Services has begun their work with the city.

F. Budget Requests for 2014-2015. Connie advises including amount “for pruning large trees throughout town to remove deadwood ... look at the priority list from the 2010 inventory.”

Next Meeting – March 11, 2014.

Adjournment –

Motion to adjourn made by Anderson Wright, seconded by Simon Perryman.

Vote: 5, yes; 0, no. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

LaTrelle Oliver, Secretary