

**Town of James Island
Tree Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 8th, 2020, 4:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Garrett Milliken (Environment & Beautification Committee Chair), David Tomblin (Appointed by Dan Boles), Amy Fabri (Appointed by Troy Mullinax), Paul Cantrell & Jenny Welch (Appointed by Cynthia Mignano), Kathy Woolsey (Appointed by Mayor Woolsey), Robin Hardin. **Absent Member:** Tony Zerega

Meeting commenced at 4:35 pm

I. Approval of August Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by Ms. Hardin. Second by Mrs. Woolsey

II. Purchase of equipment for tree survey

Chairman Milliken made a motion to approve \$300 budget for purchase of sundry items required for tree survey. Ms. Fabri seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Tree of the Month Signs

The Chairman presented a quote to purchase Tree of the Month signs. Consensus among members was the quote was too expensive. Mrs. Woolsey suggested a quote from online signs, a company she has used in the past.

The name of the tree award was discussed among members. "Canopy of Distinction" was tentatively agreed upon.

IV. Update on recommended tree list

Mrs. Woolsey and Mr. Tomblin discussed the lack of diversity on the native tree list. Both suggested the addition of fruit trees such as fig & pecan.

Mrs. Woolsey and Mr. Tomblin will continue to edit the recommended tree list and bring back to the council at the next meeting.

V. For the good of the order

Mrs. Woolsey initiated a discussion of the Asian Longhorned Beetle and the recent activity of the USDA to curb the spread of the invasive insect in South Carolina. The beetle attacks hardwoods, mainly maple trees. The beetle was discovered in May/ June in South Carolina and an effort has been underway by the USDA to seek out infestations and destroy infected trees.

The Chairman suggested adding an educational section to the town website to alert the public the recent infestation of the beetle with information on how to spot the beetle and who to contact if they should find evidence of beetle infestation.

Meeting Adjourned @ 5:05 pm

Next Meeting is October 13th at 4:30 pm.