

City of Apalachicola Tree Committee

**Summaries of
January 27, 2024, Arbor Day Event and
January 16, 2024, 3 p.m. Regular Meeting**

1. Arbor Day event.

- What: Gave away 3-gallon containers of following trees provided by the Florida Forest Service.

Species	Number
Pond cypress	12
American elm	7
Southern magnolia	7
Sweetbay magnolia	10
Southern live oak	10
Sand live oak	10
Common persimmon	10
Longleaf pine	14
Total	80

- When: Saturday, January 27, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (Had planned to for event to last until noon but had given away all trees by 10:45 a.m.)
- Where: Apalachicola Margaret Key Library parking lot.
- Members of public that attended: estimated 125 persons.
- Participants.
 - Tree Committee members Sam Berkheiser, Scott Davis, and Dennis Winterringer,
 - Commissioner Grove representing the National Estuarine Research Reserve,
 - Emily Martin and Alex Skovronsky, Florida Forest Service,
 - Ed Duke, Angel Forde, and Sam Hand, Florida A&M University Extension Service, and
 - Lynn Wilder demonstrating inoculation of palm tree stump with antibiotic to prevent lethal bronzing disease.
- Publicity.
 - Had provided event notice to the Apalachicola Times, but David Adlerstein did not publish it in the left-hand column of newspaper first page,
 - Oyster Radio public service announcement and webpage,
 - City of Apalachicola webpage (City News) and Facebook page,
 - Entry on library's calendar of events, and
 - Flyers posted at City Hall, library, Piggly Wiggly, Chamber of Commerce, Oyster City Brewing Company, High Five Dive Bar, Café Con Leche, Grady Market, and Old Time Soda Fountain.
 - Following the event, David Adlerstein published an article titled "Apalach tackles lethal bronzing outbreak" in the February 8, 2024, edition of the Apalachicola Times.

- Annual Arbor Day proclamation (an Arbor Day Foundation requirement for maintaining Tree City status) adopted by the City Commission at its January 16, 2024, meeting.

2. January 16, 2024, 3 p.m. regular monthly meeting.

a. Attendees.

Sam Berkheiser, Tree Committee (TC) member,
Anita Grove, City Commissioner,
Rebecca Stafford, TC member, and
Dennis Winterringer, TC chairperson and preparer of summary for this meeting.

b. Summary of TC's December 19, 2023, meeting (Winterringer) – Approved without revisions.

c. TC Chairperson.

At the TC's July 2023 meeting, members reelected Mr. Winterringer as Chairperson. He agreed to serve for another 6 months at which time the election of a Chairperson would be again be undertaken.

Owing to Mr. Davis's absence at this meeting, no action was taken on appointing a new Chairperson.

d. TC role and responsibilities.

The City Manager prepared a revised document for consideration by the City Commission at its meeting this evening.

e. Landscaping plan for Lafayette Park.

- Ms. Stafford discussed her final plan, which included a few changes to the plan she presented at the December 19, 2023, TC meeting.
- Native plant restoration area on southeast slope – not discussed because Mr. Davis was not present at this meeting.
 - Meeting with City Manager to discuss.
 - Permission will have to be obtained from City Commission to proceed with Duke Energy Foundation grant application.
- Water sprinkler system – not discussed because Mr. Davis was not present at this meeting.
 - Meeting with City employees on January 5, 2024, to get information on the water supply, including the locations of the lawn sprinkler heads, which he will map.
 - Functionality of system and whether it needs to be modified for the plantings (including the beds around the gazebo and at the Avenue B walkway entrance to the gazebo).

f. Next TC meeting.

Tuesday, February 20, 3 p.m., at the old library (corner of 6th Street and Avenue D).