

Meeting Summary  
Tree Committee  
May 21, 2019

In attendance:

Dennis Winterringer, Chairman Tree Committee  
Holly Brown, Member Tree Committee  
Pam Richardson, Member Tree Committee  
Bob Seaborn, Member Tree Committee  
Anita Grove, City Commissioner to Tree Committee  
Ron Nalley, City Manager  
Wilbur Bellew, Code Enforcement Officer  
Sam Hand, Florida A&M Extension Forester  
Robert Osburn, Inmate Manager

Anita passed out copies of blogs and handouts of tree information. Draft summary of previous meeting was approved. The Tree Ordinance was approved May 16, 2019. Several ways of informing the public as well as general contractors and tree companies were discussed and will be implemented.

Sam Hand discussed methods of preventing tree damage, e.g., protect one foot or area around trees per one inch of tree diameter from any cutting of root zone, also, of heavy equipment in that area. Sam further described the techniques of straightening a tree at Lafayette Park. He will try to obtain equipment and oversee that operation. A large live oak tree with severe decay problems was okayed for removal.

Sam described for Robert ways to prevent damage to trees when trimming around them, as well as, how to not over prune palm trees. Robert responded that inmates were seldom the same week after week so training is difficult, but was pleased that palms would not require trimming or pruning as previously scheduled.

Sam will contact Anita with information on training people interested in tree care.

Dennis and Ron discussed the \$250 fee for a tree application for removing nonpatriarchal trees from a lot. Dennis advocated charging the fee for each lot in a multi-lot application. Ron noted that when a multiple lot application is registered it becomes one lot and only one fee will be required to remove tree so designated.

A discussion ensued of what to do with the money accrued from removal fees. Ron stated that the Parks and Recreation Committee would be a partner (or drivers for those plans. Members suggested tree removal fees could be used for a tree identification trail, also to address Battery Park and Lafayette Park.