

Southport Forestry Committee

Meeting Minutes – 9 May 2023

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm. In attendance were members Scott A. Len, Roxie Smith, Bif Bream, Marianne Huntley, Dina Rousset, and Fred Fiss. Travis Henley and Chris Martin represented City Staff, and Karen Mosteller represented the Board of Alderman.

1. April minutes were reviewed and approved.
2. Ordinance/ permits – ntr
3. Arbor Day/Naturefest (April 28th) was reviewed. Consensus was the events were a success with positive feedback from attendees and a bigger/better event each year.
4. Live Oak Society updates. Property on Tommy Harrelson's property is now on list and photo will be in newspaper bringing attention to LO Society. An article is to follow as well. Jill Barry has had a tree on her property registered since 1985. It is a centurion and has grown substantially since last measured. Scott will be re-measuring to update listing with LO. It is expected to be the largest Southport tree in LO Society. Goal remains for committee to submit to LO Society in late fall and work toward that goal continues.
5. Tree Champion –
 - a. a) One small change was made to the Nomination Form to indicate that a nominated tree must be in either Southport or the ETJ. Allie Scholer's nomination as a tree champion was approved.
 - b. It was suggested that Betty Timberlake Foundation be recognized for their annual gift. Fred will contact Vicki to arrange how this can be achieved.
 - c. Information and nomination form for tree champion will be added to website. Scott/Marianne to discuss with Elena.
6. The committee has been offered the opportunity to be showcased in the display case at Fort Johnson in July. Committee discussed and will move forward. Annual planting of trees, tree champion and Live Oak Society will be the featured themes. Plans to be discussed at a future meeting.
7. Scott ordered new tree city sign and it will be placed near town limit sign.
8. Landings – no updates. Petition at 317 signatures.
9. Grounds crew – working in Franklin Park for past week they also removed a cedar and some dead shrubs in Northwood Cemetery.
10. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Dina Rousset - Committee Member.