

## **March 2025 Minutes**

### **In Person Attendance**

Cowan Hunter, Hume Bryant, Ed Croom, Mary Hartwell Howorth, Greg Pinion, Benjamin Requet, Mark Levy, Matt Neilson, Carol Lutken (Friends of the Forrest)

### **Not in Attendance**

Allison Ferris, Hollis Green, Jaclyn Colameta

#### **1. Call to Order.**

Commissioner Cowan Hunter called the meeting to order at 11:02 A.M.

#### **2. Approval of Agenda.**

Commissioner Hunter motioned to approve the March 2025 agenda, and Commissioner Mary Hartwell Howorth seconded; all aye.

#### **3. Approval of February 2025 Minutes.**

Commissioner Hunter motioned to approve the February 2025 minutes, Commissioner Howorth seconded; all aye.

#### **4. Departmental Issues and Reports.**

##### **a. Building and Grounds**

##### **i. Public Assistance Requests and Responses Re Trees**

Greg Pinion, Superintendent of Building and Grounds reported receiving several calls that required tree trimming and no removals. There was no further discussion.

##### **ii. Report on Black Walnut at Tyler Avenue**

Greg Pinion along with Matt Neilson, Green Grove Arborist, discussed that the Black Walnut at Tyler Avenue should be minimally attended to but not neglected. There was further discussion.

##### **iii. Update on Recent Tribute Tree Program Issue**

Greg Pinion informed the Tree Board that the Tribute Tree Program issue has been resolved and now includes two sites for accessible forms i.e. the Building and Ground's page and the Tree Board's Page located on the City website. Greg Pinion included that an additional tree was planted in Lamar Park relating to the Tribute Tree Program. There was further discussion.

##### **iv. Discuss Possible Sites for Big Event Volunteer Work**

Greg Pinion informed the Tree Board that the Big Event Volunteer Work could be held in the Northeast corner of Avent Park on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Hunter inserted that the University of Mississippi would provide 15-20 volunteer students to help with this project. There was further discussion.

##### **b. Special Projects, Engineering**

##### **i. Update on the Swimming Pool Project**

Mark Levy, Director of Special Projects, projected the City Swimming Pool Project to be completed in the middle of May. There was further discussion.

**ii. General Update on FY25 Projects**

Mark Levy informed the Tree Board on the renovation to the Police Station which should begin in the next 3-4 weeks including installation of a new sign and more of a variety of planting. Mark Levy also discussed the possibility of additional trees along the corner of Price Street and Molly Barr along the Walking Trail. There was further discussion.

**c. Planning**

**i. Update on Re Current Development Tree Removal, Mitigation, Planting, Etc.**

Ben Requet, Director of Planning

**ii. Report on Public Inquires and Response Re Large Scale Tree Removals**

**iii. Report on Any Recent or Upcoming Additions to Mitigation Account**

**d. Business**

**i. Update on MFC Urban Forestry**

**ii. Additional Information and Discussion Rereview/ Reassessment of Completed Projects**

**5. Move to Adjourn.**