

CITY OF CAMDEN PARKS & TREES COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES – February 4, 2013

Members Present: Deborah Davis, Jane Miller and Susan White

Members Absent: Al Reed, Dan Cantey, Cheryl Major and Sue Truesdale

Staff Present: Liz Gilland, Urban Forester

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 5PM (Training Room downstairs at City Hall)**

The meeting opened at 5:08 p.m. by Deborah. The minutes from the January 2013 meeting were reviewed and Jane made a motion to approve as presented, Susan seconded and all approved.

**CITY UPDATE:**

\* Liz has been working on some young tree pruning and shade tree checks around town as well as preparing for the FY 2014 budget discussions with Public Works Director Tom Couch. In consultation with the Parks Supervisor, Tony Burns, staff will be requesting capital improvement funds for the transition from stone aggregate trash receptacle to steel ones, funds for park signage and parking lot bollards. Each of these items were identified last year by staff and the Commission during a field trip to all of the parks.

\* Liz met with Camden Tree Foundation Chair, Willard Polk recently to decide where to plant back three Yoshino cherry trees that had died a while ago from fire blight disease. The trees had been purchased by the Foundation and planted about five years ago for Arbor Day in memory of Agnes Corbett, former Archives Director. The City has agreed to pay for their replacement in the vicinity of the front north corner near Broad and Laurens Streets. She will procure and have them installed before the end of March.

\* Liz has asked First Class Landscaping to begin weed treatment on and mulching of all the trees that have been planted the past two years. The City would also like to see some of the informal parks such as City Hall Park, Kirkwood Commons, the northeast quadrant of Monument Sq. and Kendall Lake also mulched in areas where trees are grouped together and/or grass is not growing.

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

**Kirkwood Park Improvements:** Quotes are being requested for the purchase of a see-saw and First Class Landscaping has been asked to plant some shrubs along the fence that is adjacent to the basketball court.

**Margot Rochester Landscape Award (MRLA):** Deborah reviewed for Susan and Jane the Landscape Award's purpose and criteria as this is their first exposure to the program. Nominations will be accepted between now and March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The judges will review the locations between April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and the award ceremony has been booked for Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Archives.

Next was the review of a task list that Liz and Deborah put together and made tentative assignments for Commission members. This document's tasks and target dates were discussed. Several of the tasks have

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already been completed and more are underway. Deborah stated that the individual judges may change this year to provide a fresh perspective on the nominated sites. Each of the organizations has been contacted, but as of the meeting, only one person has been confirmed to serve: Cathy Clark with the Camden Garden Club. Representatives from the Florentine GC, the King Haigler GC and KCMG's will also be participating.

One of the tasks assigned to each of the Commission members is the distribution of the call-for-nominations posters. 50 posters were printed and distributed to those present at the meeting. A list of location categories (compiled by Deborah) was reviewed and volunteers 'assigned'. Susan will be distributing posters to all of the churches, Jane will be distributing posters to stores in Dusty Bend and Springdale shopping center, Deborah will be distributing posters to stores along Broad Street from DeKalb to York Streets. Each member is asked to make a specific list of each place where the posters will be displayed and bring it to next month's meeting so we have it for next year. Deborah and Liz will follow up with Al and possibly Dan to see if they can also help distribute the posters.

**Leaders Legacy Recognition Program (LLRP):** City staff will be working on soliciting quotes to procure the benches in the coming weeks.

**Tree Replacement:** Work continues on the list of tree replacement sites for the 2013 planting season. Liz hopes to finish identifying the planting sites and visit several tree nurseries this month to choose the trees for installation.

**Commission Vacancy:** Kim Cates has formerly resigned from the Commission per an emailed sent to Liz on 2-4-13. She has taken a job in Charlotte, NC. Liz will follow up with Mel Pearson, Interim City Manager, regarding the process to appoint current ex-officio member Jane Miller to fill Kim's vacancy.

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With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m. via a motion made by Susan, seconded by Jane and approved by all.

Respectfully submitted by Liz Gilland, Camden Urban Forester