

CITY OF CAMDEN PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2012

Members Present

Claire Shell
Dan Cantey
Cheryl Major

Sue Truesdale
Al Reed

Members Absent: Fran Burns and Deborah Davis

Staff Present: Liz Gilland, Urban Forester

Claire Shell opened the meeting at 1:06 PM and welcomed those present. Claire asked for approval of the January 10, 2012 minutes as written. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE:

* Liz asked Danny Burbage, Urban Forester with the City of Charleston to come look at the live oak trees at the Town Green and provide an opinion on their condition and if any changes should be made to their management. She has also met with Kevin Shaw, Horticulturist with the contractor (AOS), then met another day with Mike Walsh, head of sales at Shady Grove Nursery where the trees were purchased and met yet again another day with Diane Rushing of AOS and Herb Gilliam and Charles Howell both of the Land Plan Group. At each meeting the canopy thinness and trunk damage was noted. It was advised by Shady Grove to wait until this spring when the new flush of leaves emerge to re-evaluate the tree status. Liz will write a letter this week to the tree donors informing them of the transplant shock the trees are experiencing and the fact that they are being monitored.

* The chains for the bollards at Kendall Lake Park will be installed as soon they have all been painted. City staff is applying several coats of paint to the chains and it takes a week per coat for the paint to set well.

* An informal ceremony is being planned for an historic sign dedication at Boykin Park. This will take place on Friday, February 24th at 11:45AM. All Parks & Trees Commission members are invited to attend. The Street Dept. will be installing the sign in the coming week or so.

* Landscape trees have been tagged at various nurseries in anticipation of the 2012 tree planting season. Bids are due to Public Works this Friday. The list of 40 trees to be planted include: nuttall oak, swamp chestnut oak, 1 Chinese pistache, stewartia, two different kinds of crape myrtles, eastern redcedar, Carolina cherry laurel, eastern redbud, fruitless sweetgum, 1 sweetbay magnolia, 1 bald cypress, Chinese (lacebark) elm, Persian parrotia, black gum and overcup oak.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parks Site Visit and Review of Needs: The group met on Monday, January 23 at 9AM to visit the various city-owned parks. Liz handed out an updated and compiled list of 18 different city-owned properties. The group discussed the needs identified during the field trip as well as the proposed list of projects that were going to be included for FY13 capital improvement requests related to parks. These include (in order of priority): 1) revitalization of City Arena Park to include playground equipment & swing set, new basketball court & goal posts, new trash cans and metal bollards, 2) new signs for each park (starting on a 3-yr. cycle), and 3) installation of metal bollards for Boykin Park. Other items identified on the needs list for the various parks will be addressed / accomplished via works orders and/or grant applications. The Park & Greenspace inventory is attached.

Margot Rochester Landscape Award: Since Deborah was not in attendance, the group did not know what progress has been made on the award program 'to-do' list since the previous meeting. Claire will call Deborah to check the status of tasks. Sue mentioned that she thought it would be good to have a representative from the African-American garden club on the panel of judges. All were in agreement and she was asked to find out whom

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the representative is from the garden club so they can be contacted and invited to participate. The 'to-do list from last month included: schedule article / calendar of events in paper for February and March, judge nominations in April, present the award in May, update nomination form and post on website, update/revise criteria, print up promotional posters for distribution by March meeting.

Nominations for 2012 Appointments: Fran and Claire will be going off of the Board in May of this year. The group discussed the names brought forth at last month's meeting. It was decided that Liz will contact Austin Jenkins and Dan Lovett to check their interest in serving. If Austin or Dan is not interested then we will move onto checking interest of one of the other candidates.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was discussed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07PM.

The next meeting will be March 6, 2012 at 1PM in the small conference room at City Hall.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE MEETINGS INCLUDE:

April 3, 2012	August 7, 2012
May 1, 2012	September 4, 2012

Respectfully submitted by
Liz Gilland, Camden Urban Forester