

CITY OF CAMDEN PARKS & TREES COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 10, 2012

Members Present

Claire Shell  
Al Reed  
Deborah Davis

Sue Truesdale  
Dan Cantey

Members Absent: Cheryl Major and Fran Burns

Staff Present: Liz Gilland, Urban Forester

**CALENDAR OF FUTURE MEETINGS INCLUDE:**

**May 8, 2012                      August 7, 2012                      September 4, 2012**

Claire Shell opened the meeting at 1:10 PM and welcomed those present. Claire asked for approval of the March 2012 minutes as written. A revision was needed to correct the memorial tree planted by the Camden Tree Foundation. The tree was planted in memory of Toby Shehorn's mother not wife. A motion was made by Deborah and seconded by Al to adopt the minutes as corrected; the motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE:

- \* The Parks & Streets Divisions worked diligently to spruce up the Parks, etc. in preparation for the Carolina Cup. They did a good job as everything looked nice.
- \* Liz recently met with Mary Sue to discuss the various needs in Kirkwood Park as the City will be applying for a PARD grant to improve the park.
- \* The new street and park trees are in the ground and being watered. Most are doing well, some are slow in flushing out but coming along.
- \* The Camden Tree Foundation recently contracted with Howard Wallace of Wavering Place Landscapes to plant an oak tree at Rectory Square Park as a memorial tree donation from Toby Shehorn in memory of his mother. A formal process needs to be set up for these types of plantings as there was some confusion/miscommunication regarding the need for timely notification before tree installation as well as the required-by-law utility location. Liz contacted Brenda Sullivan (Tree Foundation member) to request a meeting with the Foundation to discuss this as well as opportunities for future tree plantings, but has not yet heard of any potential meeting dates.
- \* The meeting scheduled to meet with representatives from Shady Grove Nursery and the construction contractor AOS to discuss the Town Green live oaks was cancelled and not re-scheduled to date. Liz and Diane (AOS co-owner) decided to wait until the end of April to re-evaluate the condition of the trees.
- \* The ceremony planned for the unveiling of an historic sign at Boykin Park that was postponed due to severe weather has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:45AM. All Parks & Trees Commission members are encouraged to attend.
- \* Liz presented two Power Point programs recently: one at the Archives & Museum on Trees that Attract Birds to your Home Landscape and the other to the Midlands Master Gardeners on general tree care.
- \* The first draft of plans for the Broad Street design has been submitted to city staff for review. A meeting is scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> with representatives from the engineering firm, the city, SCDOT and others to discuss the plans.

OLD BUSINESS:

**Margot Rochester Landscape Award:** Deborah reported that: posters have been distributed around town, an article was submitted to the Chronicle Independent for printing and hopes there will be at least two printings of the announcement, radio announcements are on-going, and all other press is out and on web site. Michelle Davis,

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the Street Division employee who normally takes photos of the Landscape Award nominees, is out on extended sick leave and won't be back to work until the first of May. It was suggested that perhaps Johnny Deal or John Shell, Jr. would be willing to take the photos this year. Deborah will contact Johnny and if he is not available then Claire will contact John.

**Nominations for 2012 Appointments:**

Austin Jenkins is not available to serve this year but does want to be kept in mind for next year. Rose Sheheen was contacted and would like to serve but is already serving on another City Commission. Dan Lovett's name was still under consideration but Deborah suggested that it might be good to get some new folks on the Commission who have not previously served like Dan. Two other people were mentioned as potential candidates: Bebe Myers and Parker Gibson. Claire will contact Bebe and Liz will contact Parker. A deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup> was set for potential candidates to submit their applications so they can then be passed along to City Council for consideration.

**OTHER:**

\* Dan asked about the status, viability and future of the Town Green live oaks. A discussion followed regarding the merits, complexity and perception of keeping vs. replacing them. There are many pros and cons to the situation and a decision will not be made until the end of the month.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00PM.

**The next meeting will be May 8, 2012 at 1PM in the small conference room at City Hall.**

Respectfully submitted by  
Liz Gilland, Camden Urban Forester