

Oak Ridge Tree Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 6th, 2023, 10:00am –11:00am, Oak Ridge Town Hall, 8315 Linville Rd, Oak Ridge, NC 27310

Tree Board Members Present: John Browning x Austin Goldman x Roy Nydorf
 Nancy Stoudemire x Gigi Williams

Town Council Members Present: Ann Schneider, Mayor, Jim Kinneman, Mayor Pro Tem
 George McClellan Martha Pittman Spencer Sullivan

Town Staff Members Present: x Bill Bruce, Town Mgr. Sandra Smith, Town Clerk
 Sean Taylor, Planning Director Sam Anders, Finance Officer Michael Thomas, Town Attorney
Terry Lannon, Parks & Recreation

1. CALL TO ORDER

Gigi Williams called the meeting to order at 10:01 xam pm

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion that the minutes from the March 2, 2023, regular meeting be approved. Motion seconded and was passed (3-0). Motion made to accept the agenda for the April 6, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded and passed (3-0).

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. Discussion

Bill Bruce advised us that the Town of Oak Ridge currently does not have Tree City USA status. Our submission in 2022 was too late and incomplete to receive the Tree City USA designation and approval for 2023. We need more than a proclamation. We need an Arbor Day celebration, a project (such as our Treasure Tree booklet), etc.

Suggested events for Arbor Day celebration in 2023 were:

1. Ridge Fest September 7-9th
2. Oak Ridge Heritage Day-September 30,2023

Gigi Williams informed the committee that the Guilford County Extension Service has two excellent resources that would be of interest to our citizens at one of the above events. Extension agent Ben Grandon with expert experience in fruit tree pruning, and agent Taylor with expert experience in non-edible trees.

Gigi will reach out to Ben Grandon or Taylor for a commitment to be featured at a Heritage Day booth. Roy Nydorf suggested we include our pamphlets at the booth.

Old Business:

New Business

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- **Proposed Budget**
 - \$1,500 (2023-2024 Fiscal year)
 - \$1,105 of previous budget available until June 30,2023. The monies do not “roll over.
- **Park Trees**
- Bill Bruce, Nancy Stoudemire, and Terry Lannon meeting with Duke Power regarding feasibility to move the utility poles 7 feet or so away from the Shumard oaks to reduce the amount of extensive pruning realized to date. Burial of the power lines deemed too expensive.
- Roy Nydorf informed the Tree Committee members that the proper mulching depth should be 2-3 inches deep and he supplied a link to the committee where we could each view proper mulching practices. The mulch has been adequately pulled back from the **base** of the tree trunks.
- Roy Nydorf that the red oak tree with the cavity (which is in Heritage Park just south of the fire department) needs attention. What can be done to extend the tree’s life and reduce any hazards to park attendees? Gigi Williams will contact Taylor of the Guilford County Extension Svc for recommendations.
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5. Roundtable

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- . Bill Bruce advised that it would be great to have pictures of Treasure Trees framed and mounted and placed on the walls of Oak Ridge Town Hall. The Tree Committee was in agreement. Roy Nydorf has located the Treasure Tree photos and will bring them to Town Hall. *Ashley redeveloping access to the Treasure Trees on the town website.*

Next meeting: May 4, 2023 10:00am Oak Ridge Town Hall

6. ADJOURNMENT

Gigi Williams moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 × am pm,

Austin Goldman seconded. The motion was passed unanimously (3-0)

Respectfully submitted by:

Austin Goldman, Secretary