

Parks and Parkways Commission September 9, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Discon and the secretary called roll.

Present: Scott Discon, Karin Crosby, Lee Frederick, Anne Marie Fargason, Will Afton and Eric McQuiston

Absent: Marilyn Osborne

Also Present: Catherine Casanova, Landscape Inspector

Charles Goodwin, 2075 Lakeshore Drive, said he had conflicting information. The West Beach Parkway project had additional soil placed on the median. He was told it was to keep the water off the oak trees and install a swale. He had received an email from Mr. Discon that it would be redug. Mr. Discon said drainage was always part of the project. Ms. Frederick said it was to keep the swale and plant irises. Mr. Goodwin said Mr. Discon had said the commission had asked for dirt with the curb. Mr. Discon felt it would be a little soil and the commission did not ask for the soil. Ms. Crosby said the soil was for the end caps of the medians for an aesthetically pleasing appearance. Mr. McQuiston said a few inches would be sufficient. He did not think what was placed would adversely affect the tree but to continually add dirt would be a problem and would be defeating the purpose.

Mr. Discon said he had discussed with Mr. Kyle to reinstall the swale and it was agreed to do it. The irises would also be planted.

The commission discussed if drafting a resolution it should state that the commission would like to help, and ask what was the goal or motivation. Mr. Goodwin said the fill was violating the tree regulations. The commission requested a clarification on the West Beach Project, ask why additional fill was brought in as of September 1st and dispersed on top of the oak tree roots, and why was the City eliminating that natural drainage swale. The commission asked that the commission be allowed to understand the scope of work performed and be allowed to answer any constituents questions and concerns. The commission was concerned that the fill would detrimentally harmful to the oak trees and was against the fill ordinance of Mandeville. The fill was located within the dripline of the trees. Mr. McQuiston moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Ms. Crosby and was unanimously approved.

New Business:

1. Florida Street Streetscape plantings

The median at Chenier had weeds coming through again. The staff had not been able to find the grasses. Mr. Afton suggested day lily plants that could survive without water. It was used on highways before with little maintenance by clumping or mowing them together. The height requirement would be met. There were evergreen varieties that would be easier to find. The African iris might meet the size requirement. Texas sage would bloom all summer and was drought resistant.

2. Marigny Avenue Edible Forest

It was anticipated to plant by November 1st. The staff and commission were starting to see some fruit tree availability.

3. Review of 2019 Budgeted projects

Mr. Discon updated the commission on the proposed projects and stated that the Causeway was not budgeted. Mayor Villere was in favor of the Highway 190 project with the priorities being West Beach, Marigny Avenue and the cemetery in the fall timeline. As soon as the

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priorities were complete, the other two projects of the Causeway underpass and Highway 190 would be discussed. Ms. Casanova said the Mayor suggested going back to the City Council for additional funding for the grasses on all entire length of Highway 190.

Mr. Discon asked Mr. Perkins for a submittal to request funding from the City Council. Ms. Casanova said at this time there were only conceptual plans and a contract must be approved for any additional plans. Theoretically the commission knew how much money should be included for the contract. The commission requested to place this item on the October agenda with estimated budget amounts. West Beach Parkway

4. Discussion of contracted maintenance

Place this item on next month's agenda for further discussion.

Opening of the agenda:

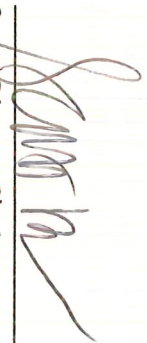
Ms. Frederick moved to open the agenda to discuss the Wildflower Garden description for the website, seconded by Ms. Crosby and was unanimously approved.

Ms. Frederick had contacted Marc Pasternack requesting a submittal as a start for updating the website. It was discussed that there were asters and black eyed susans in the garden. Ms. Crosby said she had heard complaints about the garden looking unruly because it was overgrown and the grasses were higher and more pronounced. Many people envisioned more flowers and less grasses. The garden had not burned in some time and there were tallow trees growing at this time.

Mr. Discon asked to have the commission members and Mr. Pasternack tour the garden to review and to modify the plantings. Ms. Casanova said she was often planting new seeds. Mr. Pasternack had stated that the garden could be cut if it was not burned.

Ms. Fargason moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Crosby ad was unanimously approved.


Lori Spranley, Secretary


Scott Discon, Chairman
Parks and Parkways Commission