

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting **Of The Windermere Tree Board** **April 5, 2010**

Mission Statement: Increase community awareness of our Urban Forest, provide education regarding the benefits of trees and a commitment to protect, preserve and proliferate our community's Urban Forest.

Call To Order

The regular public meeting of the Windermere Tree Board was called to order at 7:15 p.m. on April 5, 2010, by Theresa Schretzmann-Myers, in the Windermere Community Room, 118 W. Fifth Avenue, Windermere, FL 34786.

Attendance

Members present at the meeting were: Theresa Schretzmann-Myers, Kevin Dowling, Jim O'Brien and Burns Hovey, Town Council Representative.

Announcements

Theresa Schretzmann-Myers announced Windermere Tree Board had applied for the Forest Health Improvement Initiative Grant and that results should be posted by the next board meeting at the Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry website:

http://www.fl-dof.com/forest_management/fm_pdfs/FHI_grant_approved_applicants_April2010.pdf

Minutes Approval

March minutes were approved pending corrections and were filed electronically to cbernier@town.windermere.fl.us, aclick@town.windermere.fl.us, awallenhurst@town.windermere.fl.us, dburkhalter@town.windermere.fl.us.

Business

Goals

The Tree Board continues to work on plans and recommendations for multiple income streams, sustainable fundraising and sustainable tree planting partnerships so they are not solely dependent on Town Funds for Federal matching grants for U.S. Government, Division of Forestry Grants.

First Annual "Cycle for the Trees" Fundraiser

The First Annual "Cycle for the Trees," is occurred March 20, 2010 with proceeds to benefitting Windermere Tree Board Arbor Day Funding. March 20, 2010 was chosen because of the Vernal Equinox, when flowering trees were in bloom. The event is was co-sponsored by Town of Windermere, Tree Board and Windermere Roadies Cycling Group. Cycling stayed within Windermere town limits.

Jim O'Brien and Kevin Dowling suggested several improvements for next year:

- Have volunteers with smaller groups of children from start to finish for safety reasons and to keep tabs on them.
- Sponsorship by local businesses and companies for more income.
- More advance planning to deal with sponsorship and advertising.
- Sponsor a professional Road Race for the professional Windermere Roadies bikers outside Windermere Town Limits for additional income stream.

Theresa Schretzmann-Myers and Kevin Dowling of the Windermere Roadies emailed graphics and deadline for getting information to the "Mere" newsletter in December for the "Cycle for the Trees" which had been approved by Windermere Town Council. Mary Bissen provided graphics and flier signage for the Cycle for the Trees. Barry Hus provided graphic logo design for "Cycle for the Trees" signage and banners for the event. A newspaper article and ad were submitted to the West Orange Times newspaper for advance publicity by Theresa Schretzmann-Myers and Joan Foglia.

Using a current AAA map of Town of Windermere and Kevin Dowling's suggested bicycle route, Kevin Dowling, Theresa Schretzmann-Myers and Joan Foglia rode the route and placed the signage on the evening before the event. Treasurer Joan Foglia prepared a preliminary budget for projected income and expenses for the event. Registrants were required to pay a Registration entry fee of \$20 per adult and \$10 for children that included a T-shirt, water and snacks. On the route strategic water stops were placed with tables holding water, snacks and info regarding flowering trees that offers quick tree facts and education about the specimen trees at the water stop. Trees were identified by Tree Board Member volunteers along the riding route. Water and snack breaks will be on Butler Blvd. in Kevin Dowling's driveway and in The Manors at a house with a specimen pink Tabebuia in bloom.

T-shirt quote from Shirts Works, 701 Brookhaven Drive, Orlando, FL was \$5.99 per shirt with Film set-up fee of \$30.00, Silk screen set-up of \$40.00, and no artwork fee since Tree Board volunteer Barry Hus provided artwork. A total of 70 T-shirts were ordered for the first year. Sponsorship is from Town of Windermere who provided Town Hall Venue and Police Safety, Windermere Roadies who provided man-power, supervision and publicity signage via Barry Hus and Dennis Jones from Wheelworks Winter Garden who will give a safety seminar and provided bicycle support for riders. Windermere Police will provided police safety support for this event as safety was priority with the crossing of Park Avenue into the Manors at Tryon Place and the return leg back into town at Butler Blvd. Theresa Schretzmann-Myers met with Windermere Police Safety Officers and who confirmed police officers would be posted at both sites for crossing and following the last rider on the route.

Barry Hus designed the "Cycle for the Trees" Tabebuia tree logo and banner design for publicity to be hung at key points in town and at Town Hall Roundabouts. Mary Bissen will work on flier signage to be posted in and around town.

2010 Forest Health Improvement Initiative Grant Program

Theresa Schretzmann-Myers and Joan Foglia completed 2010 Forest Health Improvement Initiative Grant and met with Cecelia Bernier regarding final grant application due on February 12, 2010. Cecelia Bernier reviewed the grant, copies were made and grant package was mailed off on due date. Forest Health Improvement grant application was announced by Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in early January. This grant does **not** require 50-50 matching funds from the Town of Windermere and could fund up to \$24,000 for reforestation of trees in the towns public right-of-ways. Tree Board volunteers committed to grant writing, grant accountability management and keeping OozeTubes watered around young trees for first 120 days. Tree Board volunteer Richard Gonzalez suggested we talk with home-owners along Park Avenue to ask about using water to keep the young trees watered via OozeTubes and hose reels during the first six months.

Butler Bay/Crescent Reserve HOA Arbor Tree Planting

Status of Trees: Good. All 45 trees are surviving well and being watered in with OozeTubes. Butler Bay/Crescent Reserve HOA Volunteer Coordinator and Rep. Lorraine Brugnoli and Theresa Schretzmann-Myers coordinated HOA and Windermere Tree Board volunteers for supervision and tree planting of Arbor Day Trees on Saturday, February 27, 2010. Approximately 45 Florida Native trees were purchased from Windermere Tree Board and planted on Crescent Reserve HOA berms along Park Avenue where the Crescent Reserve HOA lost a great deal of their tree canopy during the hurricanes. Tree Board Chairman Theresa Schretzmann-Myers taught the tree planting seminar and supervised the group with Lorraine Brugnoli. Volunteers from Butler Bay/Crescent Reserve HOA, Boy Scouts and Tree Board volunteers volunteered for this planting of Arbor Day Trees. HOA provided purchase of trees, tree planting labor, OozeTubes, hoses and volunteer watering for keeping young trees watered in.

Next Regular Monthly Public Meeting Dates

Next regular meeting date is scheduled for Monday, May 3, 2010, at 7:15 p.m., in the Community Room.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m. I hereby certify these are the minutes of the Windermere Tree Board as recorded.

THERESA SCHRETMANN-MYERS
Chairman
Windermere Tree Board

April 5, 2010
Date