

Oriental Tree Board Meeting  
May 5, 2009

The Oriental Tree Board met on May 5, 2009 at 9:00 am at the Oriental Town Hall.

Present were board members: Andrews, Miller, King, Leavitt, and Kaplan. Ms. Beal arrived after the meeting had started.

Chairman Andrews opened the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 minutes were approved with corrections.

BY-LAW REVIEW – The board reviewed the ordinance that will merge the by-laws into Chapter M – Public Trees of the Oriental General Ordinances.

MOTION: Mr. King made the motion to approve the ordinance and to send it to the Board of Commissioners to set a Public Hearing. Second by Mr. Miller. Vote 5-0.

RAIN GARDEN – Ms. Beal has the plants that will be planted in the rain garden (bee balm, beauty berry and cone flowers are some of them). The planting will take place in two weeks during a regularly scheduled work day. Ms. Leavitt volunteered to keep the new plantings watered with Mr. Miller as her back-up. Prior to planting the rain garden needs to be weeded, preferably by hand and not with Round-Up.

ARBOR DAY – Approximately 15 people attended the Pruning Workshop and the Arbor Day ceremony. The Tree Board was presented with their 14<sup>th</sup> Tree City USA flag. Board members have received positive feedback about the pruning workshop and will consider doing this on an annual basis. Mrs. Suzanne Gwaltney had voiced an interest in becoming a member of the Tree Board but she has not yet submitted her letter of intent.

MAINTENANCE – Mr. King stated that the following Thursday he will work on the azaleas at Lupton Park and asked for others to assist him. He also suggested that they review the trees there to see which ones need pruning again. On May 14 he planned to be at the Rec Park to continue pruning and adding top soil and mulch where needed. He replanted more long leaf pines where others died off. The oak tree at Lou Mac will be tested for rot. A pear tree on Hodges St. is hanging over the sidewalk and needs to be pruned. A crabapple tree on Church St. needs to be removed with the help of the Public Works Dept.

Ms. Wagoner suggested that a member of the Public Works Department attend the Tree Board meeting. She will discuss it with Mr. Fears, the supervisor.

NEW BUSINESS – Ms. Leavitt asked about cutting down a cedar tree in her yard that harbors a live oak tree she would prefer to have grow. (Yes she can.)

Mr. King mentioned the pine trees that were topped by the electric company on Gilgo Road. Most of the trees have died and are covered with vines. Mr. Andrews will contact some sources he has at the electric company and see if they will remove the trees completely.

The board then took the meeting outside while they looked at the rain garden and discussed the plantings.

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Robert Andrews, Chairman

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Lori Wagoner, Recording Secretary