



## MINUTES

The City of Beaufort  
**PARK & TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 3:00pm  
City Hall Executive Conference Room 2  
1911 Boundary St, Beaufort, SC

- I. The Meeting was called to order at 3p.m. by PTAC Chair Barbara Farrior, in attendance was PTAC members Brad Hill, Victoria Bergesen, Tamala Conner, Parks Supervisor Adam Wellins and special attendees Marly Rusoff and Patricia Denkler from the Pat Conroy Literary Center.
- II. Mrs. Farrior led discussions of previous documents related to the vegetation blind project on the Spanish Moss Trail sent to the PTAC members earlier that week. Various ideas were discussed by members of a solution to add a functioning and well thought out vegetation blind in front of the Dominion Energy substation located on Depot Rd adjacent to the Spanish. Brad Hill brought up the idea of planting Podocarpus, since it's easy to maintain and can be shaped to any height or width we desire, it was discussed by all members to add more than one shrub option into the design, with the possibility of some native plants to be included, Parks Supervisor will now be taking the ideas and creating a design to present to PTAC and Dominion Energy.
- III. Mrs. Farrior opened discussions of replacement trees for the Circle of Palms located inside the Waterfront Park. Parks Supervisor was asked about an update on the Washingtonians that have been rapidly declining in health during recent months, he mentioned that Mrs. Bergesen had contacted Clemson Ext and had been advised to perform a tissue culture to confirm whether the decline was caused by Fusarium wilt or possibly something else. Adam stated that he would make sure the tissue culture was done so that we would have some answers before planting anything in the same

location. Members discussed going with Sable Palms since they are already accustomed to our environment, also mentioned was the idea of planting shade trees or removing the palms and creating a larger flower bed area for the newly constructed area. Adam said he would pass along all the ideas to Linda Roper of Downtown Operations for further insight.

- IV. Mr. Wellins led discussion on the City's Tree Initiative, that would include collaboration from the PTAC Board, the initiative involves planting one or more trees inside or along City owned Buildings, Parks, and Right of Ways, all members agreed that it would be a great idea to get involved and help with planning and helping with the initiative moving forward.
- V. Mrs. Farrior opened discussions for our special attendees, Marly Rusoff, and Patricia Denkler from the Pat Conroy Literary Center. Mrs. Rusoff began by handing out a pamphlet on the history of the Oak Tree inside the lot across from the newly located Pat Conroy Literary Center, Located on King, and Bladen St. Their mission is to preserve the tree which has historical value, The Beaufort Historical Society is also convinced this is the same tree that appears in these historic Civil War era photos. They have hopes of turning the lot into a passive park where it can be used to help educate the community about its history, they asked for help and support from The City of Beaufort and PTAC, Brad Hill called a motion to vote for approval to support their initiative, The motion was approved, and the vote was unanimously approved by all members.
- VI. There was no other discussion
- VII. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15p.m.