



**Town of Edenton
TREE COMMITTEE
December 18, 2023
3:30 p.m.
Town Council Chambers**

The Edenton Tree Committee met in regular session on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. The following members were present: Chairman John Morehead, Ellen Colodney, William Ahearn, and April Lane. Also present was Assistant Town Manager Dewayne Whealton, Landscape Supervisor Tosh Towe, and North Carolina Forest Ranger Anthony Desocio.

Mr. Morehead called the meeting to order. The November minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.

Patrick Sellers is the new town council liaison to the tree committee.

Mr. Morehead asks if anything needed to be added to the agenda.

Hearing none, he asks Mr. Towe if he had anything from his landscape report.

Mr. Towe stated no.

Mr. Morehead moves on to the next item on the agenda under old business: Tree Walk Brochure.

Mr. Ahearn discusses the tree walk brochure and the best ways to identify the trees along the walk. Mr. Ahearn states that he will know more when he hears back from the company about the plaques.

Mr. Towe states that the signs would need to be flush to the ground to avoid being hit by a mower.

Mr. Morehead asks Mr. Tyler Newman (Public Information Officer) if he has any comment.

Mr. Newman discusses QR codes and tree walk map. He asks if Mr. Ahearn can send a map.

Mr. Ahearn states yes.

The committee discusses size, material, and location of the proposed markers.

Mr. Whealton states that this is a good idea but would like to know the cost so he can look at grants.

Mr. Towe states that most of the trees are on private property and will be maintained by the homeowner.

Mr. Morehead asks if there is a consensus to invite Mr. Ahearn and Mr. Newman to figure out the cost, have a plan for where they would go, QR codes, and come back with a plan.

Mr. Whealton states that he would like to see GPS coordinates attached to the trees on the tree walk.

Mr. Morehead moves on to the next item on the agenda, 2024 Arbor Day.

Mr. Whealton states there will not be a meeting in January because of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. He states that he submitted for the Tree City USA and a Growth Award. He states that he wanted the committee to discuss locations further at the February meeting.

Mr. Morehead asks if anyone has any suggestions.

Mr. Whealton states that it would be prudent to look at the findings of the Tree Canopy Assessment.

Ms. Lane states that Pleasant Grove AME Zion Church on E. Carteret had indicated that they may be interested in tree plantings.

Mr. Morehead states that he would like to concentrate on neighborhoods that do not historically have mature trees. He asks the if the committee would like to ride around and look for planting sites.

Mr. Whealton asks about the New Edenton Housing Authority across from the Boys and Girls Club.

Ms. Lane states that she had a conversation and they were adamant about not having trees.

Mr. Morehead states that he knows her and would have a conversation.

Further discussion is made about the location of Arbor Day 2024.

Ms. Lane states that the committee should identify the areas that are most in need of trees and speak to the neighbors to determine if they would want trees.

Mr. Morehead asks if Susan Inglis and April Lane would like do this approach.

Mr. Whealton asks Mr. Towe how long he needs to order trees.

Mr. Towe states two weeks.

Mr. Whealton states that if the committee could have a definite location by March, the committee could shoot for an April Arbor Day celebration.

Mr. Towe states that he does not have a landscape report.

Ms. Colodney states that an overcup oak would do well in the Broad Street jut outs and shares information with the committee.

Discussion is made about the overcup oak and root systems.

Mr. Morehead moves on to the next item on the agenda, Educational Component.

Ranger DeSocio presents information related to the state's Best Management Practices for storm management.

Mr. Morehead ask for anything else to be considered. Hearing none, meeting adjourned.

DRAFT