



**City of Key West
Tree Commission Meeting
January 11, 2010
510 Greene Street, Old City Hall, 5:00 PM
Minutes**

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Roll Call

Tree Commissioners:

 x **Danilo Crespo**
 x **Gregory Curry**
 x **Mimi McCoy Grantham**
 x **Rudy Molinet**
 x **Niels Weise**
 - **Ashish Soni**

Staff:

 x **Ronald Ramsingh**
Asst. City Attorney
 x **Cynthia Domenech-Coogle**
Urban Forestry Program Manager
 x **Gladys Abreda**
Administrative Secretary

3. Approval of the Agenda

(a) Additions/Changes:

Motion to approve Agenda Mr. Weise, second Mr. Curry

4. Presentations

Urban Forestry Program Manager Report

Staff discussed honoring Arbor Day by planting on Flagler Avenue and would like to use TC funds to purchase trees to complete landscaping of Flagler; City Landscape crews planted 2 trees in pocket park at Angela and Grinnell Streets and installing flexi pave in the downtown area.

5. Approval of Minutes

(a) November 09, 2009

(b) December 14, 2009

**Motion to approve Minutes for November 9, 2009 and December 14, 2009,
Ms. McCoy Grantham, second Mr. Weise.**

6. Resolutions Tabled Items:

- (a) **744 & 746 Windsor Lane, Steve Selka:** Represented by John Mumford. Remove
(1) Avocado tree.

(x) Approved () Denied () Tabled () Further Action

Notes: Mr. Mumford discussed construction on property and condition of tree.

No public Input

Motion to approve Ms. McCoy-Grantham, second Mr. Crespo

Replacement: 9.6 caliper inches native canopy trees, Fl #1, including a replacement of (1) avocado tree on property.

7. Resolutions

- (a) **906 South Street, Nancy Holtz:** Represented by Craig Reynolds. Transplant (1) Gumbo Limbo and (1) Christmas palm.

(x) Approved () Denied () Tabled () Further Action

Notes: Mr. Reynolds discussed proposal for construction of home and garage on current vacant lot. The Gumbo Limbo and Christmas palm are both in the way of construction. Wish to relocate the Gumbo Limbo to better location using a crane and backhoe to move tree. Mr. Evan Bell of Ecoscapes Landscaping discussed procedure for moving tree and that would need to use neighbors' driveway for moving tree. Staff discussed an ISA Certified Arborist be present at all times during the root pruning and move. The limbs and canopy should not be trimmed. Past practices allowed trimming, even hatracking, however current practices do not permit trimming unless absolutely necessary. Staff also suggested root pruning in advance of move and wants to be notified in advance of such in order to be present during root pruning and the move. The move is delicate as the Gumbo Limbo has very soft bark and will compress and girdle branches and trunk under weight of tree. Mr. Molinet asked that the neighbor be informed prior to work.

No Public Input

Motion to approve transplant of the Gumbo Limbo and Christmas palm with 2 years of survivability for the Gumbo Limbo. Required permission from neighbor, ISA Certified Arborist on site during root pruning and moving, and no canopy reduction. Mr. Weise, second Mr. Curry.

Roll Call: Mr. Curry (yes), Ms. McCoy-Grantham (yes), Mr. Weise (yes), Mr. Crespo (yes) and Mr. Molinet (yes).

- (b) **2014 Seidenberg Street, Stuart Strickland:** Represented by Evan Bell/Ecoscapes. Transplant (1) Gumbo Limbo tree.

(x) Approved () Denied () Tabled () Further Action

Notes: Mr. Bell discussed homeowner desire to install pool in rear yard and to transplant tree offsite to the Botanical Gardens using a crane to lift tree over house. Staff suggested no trimming to reduce tree crown

No public Input

Motion to approve the transplant to Botanical Gardens Mr. Curry, second Mr. Crespo. Replacement: 13 caliper inches native tree species, Fl #1.

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- (c) **1208 Virginia Street, Ralph J. Beyer:** Represented by Larry Busloff/Leaping Lizard Tree Service. Remove (1) Spanish Lime tree.

(x) Approved () Denied () Tabled () Further Action

Notes: Representative not in attendance due to illness. Item was approved without the representative of the homeowner due to hazardous condition of tree as described by staff.

No public Input

Motion to approve Mr. Curry, second Mr. Weise.

Amended motion to remove vine on Poinciana tree at rear of property. Motion to remove vine Mr. Curry, second Mr. Crespo.

Replacement: 20.2 caliper inches native canopy trees, Fl #1, or monetary mitigation of \$150.00 per caliper inch.

- (d) **Flagler Avenue Landscape Plan Approval:**

(x) Approved () Denied () Tabled () Further Action

Notes: Staff discussed Phase I and Phase II landscape plan and total monies of only \$26,000 for landscaping which is part of Toppinos' contract. As a result only the larger trees were installed. Mr. Molinet commented about the designer's: Native Landscape Design, Ecoscapes, Thrinax Inc. and Craig Reynolds Architecture work is outstanding; they donated their time and knowledge to create this project. Mr. Molinet proposed to dedicate tree commission funds at least \$10,000.00 or more. Mr. Curry reminded tree commissioners be careful in spending, as monies left in budget is be for the entire year. Staff stated project will cost approximately \$60,000.00 which is wholesale cost with city landscape crews installing plants. Mr. Molinet discussed project budget and requesting 50/50 with City Commission. Mr. Ramsingh stated the actual donation of funds from TC must be an agended item in order to act. Discussed holding a Special Meeting. Decision to hold special meeting on 01/25/10. Mr. Molinet suggests City Commissioners: Ms. Teri Johnston and Mr. Barry Gibson to attend as, both they have shown favorable interest in the project and extend invitation to City Manager Mr. Jim Scholl. Discussion followed proposing the dedication of Flagler Avenue corridor landscaping in memory of Merili McCoy.

No public Input

Motion to approve special meeting on 01/25/10 Mr. Weise, second Ms. McCoy-Grantham.

8. Administrative Hearing: na

9. Champion Tree Nomination:

10. Discussion Items:

- a) **City of Key West Tree Commission First Bi-Annual 'Native Tree Give Away'**

11. Staff and Emergency Approval Permits

- (a) **64 Front Street, Terry & Phil Wilson.** Remove (2) Washingtonia palms. Permit #5433.

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- (b) **1425 Newton Street, Wendy Hallgreen:** Remove (3) Coconut palms. **Permit #5434.**
- (c) **2718 Harris Street, Zachary T. Bentley: Emergency.** Remove (1) Red Bottle Brush. **Permit #5436.**
- (d) **54 Front Street, M. Lee Garrison:** Remove (1) Fiji Fan palm. **Permit #5439.**

Motion to adjourn Mr. Weise, second McCoy-Grantham 7:30 p.m.