



**City of Key West
Tree Commission Meeting
April 12, 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-Acting Chair**
 x **Mimi McCoy Grantham**
 - **Ashish Soni**
 x **Niels Weise**
 x **Debra Yates**

Staff:

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

Mr. Curry opened meeting to elect chairperson. Legal staff, Mr. Ramsingh, concurred.

Mr. Curry nominated to Mr. Weise and second was 2nd by Mr. Crespo.

Mr. Weise accepted with needing assistance in signing permits if he was out of town and requested possibility of splitting the chairmanship. Mr. Ramsingh will speak with city manager to sponsor a change of ordinance and designate the vice chair to be available for sharing of responsibilities. Requires crafting of one page resolution and executive summary, Mr. Ramsingh called for a vote in favor of appointing Mr. Weise to chair of tree commission. Unanimous affirmative vote.

3. Approval of the Agenda

(a) Additions/Changes:

Staff requested to remove item 7-k, 209 Ann Street, LLC, for staff approval

4. Presentations

Urban Forestry Program Manager Report:

Staff discussed planting project on Flagler from George to Bertha Streets, removing visual hazards, and beginning to plant. Sidewalk repairs were from FKAA.

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- (a) Discussed report written by Ken King, Certified Arborist for 1609 Patricia Street, property of Lynn Kephart. Any tree removals will require permitting. Second report required one year after restoration pruning.
Discussed Trees Florida Conference, June 13, 2010, in Key West. Staff will be one of the instructors for the Tree Academy on Sunday.
Discussed tree replacements.

(b) City Attorney Report:

Mr. Ramsingh called for nomination of new vice-chair, Mr. Crespo nominated Mr. Curry; 2nd Debra Yates. Unanimously approved

5. Approval of Minutes

- (a) **January 11, 2010**
- (b) **January 25, 2010, Special Meeting**
- (c) **March 08, 2010**

Motion to table January 11, January 25 and March 08, 2010, Ms. McCoy-Grantham, second Mr. Curry

6. Resolutions Tabled Items:

- (a) **3301 Harriett Avenue, Terry Walburn. Removal of (1) Lignum Vitae without permit.**

Approved **Denied** **Tabled** **Further Action**

Notes: Mr. Walburn discussed situation surrounding removing the tree. He had no idea that it was a protected plant but he is willing to do whatever the tree commission determines. He will not contest the administrative hearing and will enter into a settlement agreement

Motion to approve Ms. McCoy Grantham, second Mr. Crespo, to purchase donate and plant the trees within the City of Key West in locations to be determined by staff.

Replacement: 6 1/2 caliper inches of Lignum Vitae trees, FL #1

- (b) **Approving purchase of Key West Historic Tree Markers.**

Approved **Denied** **Tabled** **Further Action**

Lack of representation second time.

Motion to deny Mr. Crespo, second Mr. Curry.

7. Resolutions

- (a) **824 Thomas Street, Edward Burr: Remove (1) Silk Floss tree.**

Approved **Denied** **Tabled** **Further Action**

Notes: Mr. Burr planted the tree 20 years ago, wants off street parking.

No Public Input

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

Replacement: 7 caliper inches native canopy trees, Fl #1.

- (b) **1201 Olivia Street, Frances Silverman: Remove (1) Gumbo Limbo.**

Approved **Denied** **Tabled** **Further Action**

Notes: Ms. Silverman and neighbor Mr. Michael Browning discussed diseased Gumbo Limbo; both agreed to remove the tree due to the dropping and staining. Staff discussed treatment as curable.

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Public Input

Mr. Scott Montgomery /Native Landscape Design, has treated trees with very heavy Infestation and has cured disease.

Mr. Curry motioned to table for two months, until June 21, 2010 meeting, second Ms. McCoy-Grantham.

(c) 3401 Northside Drive, Key West Center for Cardiovascular Health:

Represented by Scott Montgomery/Native Landscape Design. Remove (1) Silver Buttonwood.

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

Notes: Mr. Scott Montgomery/Native Landscape Design discussed new addition to building and fire marshal stating tree must be removed/ in violation of fire codes

No Public Input

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

Replacement: 8.9 caliper inches native canopy trees, Fl #1.

(d) 810 Eisenhower Drive, Gordon Keiser: Represented by C. Leon Williams.

Working within the dripline of a Gumbo Limbo.

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

Notes: Discussion regarding purpose of building carport.

Mr. Crespo asked if there was HARC approval. Mr. Williams discussed HARC disapproval. McCoy-Grantham commented regarding roots, Mr. Williams stated they can move the column holes and cantilever. Mr. Curry asked staff opinion.

Staff has had discussion with contractor for feasibility and concurs with construction considering cantilevering, hand digging within the dripline assisted by an ISA Certified Arborist present to trim roots smaller than 2', and the floor of garage be a material that is pervious in perpetuity. No limb removal as a result of construction and no concrete.

No Public Input

Motion to approve Mr. Curry, second Mr. Crespo

(e) 4 Gecko Lane, Christopher Kent: Remove (1) Strangler Ficus tree.

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

Notes: Mr. Kent wants to build a small structure. Doesn't think tree is very healthy.

No Public Input

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

Replacement: 37.2 caliper inches native canopy trees, Fl #1

(f) 11 Pierce Lane, Pam Kraskewicz: Represented by Larrie Busloff/Leaping Lizard Tree Service. Remove (1) Strangler Ficus.

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

Notes: Lack of representation

Motion to table Mr. Crespo, second Mr. Curry

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(g) 1010 Kennedy Drive/ Kennedy Building Associates: Represented by Elizabeth Newland. Remove (1) Noronhia tree, (4) Seagrape trees and transplant (1) Coconut Palm.

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

Notes: Ms. Newland discussed plans for communication pole and location conflict with plants that are in poor condition. Replacement vegetation exceeds requirement. No Public Input

**Motion to approve the removals and transplants, Mr. Curry, second Ms. Yates
Replacement: 16.5 caliper inches native canopy trees, Fl #1**

(h) 1010 Windsor Lane, John C. Baker: Represented by Roger Morse Builders Inc. Work within dripline of Gumbo Limbo.

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

Notes: Mr. Morse discussed construction project still within dripline but 15' from the trunk of tree. Staff discussed construction requirements within dripline; ISA Certified Arborist at site at all time during work and adjusting column holes if encountered roots larger than 2". Ms. McCoy-Grantham discussed longevity of tree and suggested putting addition someplace else. Staff suggested vertical mulching within dripline and concrete floor is 'floating'. Tree is to be protected in perpetuity. No Public Input

**Motion to approve as comments directed by staff Mr. Curry, second Ms. Yates.
Ms. McCoy Grantham-no vote**

(i) 611 Fleming Street, Carolyn Blackwell: Represented by Dan's Tropical Tree Service. Remove (1) Poinciana tree.

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

Notes: Mr. McChesney represented homeowner instead of Dan's Tropical Trees. Mr. McChesney discussed tree leaning over neighboring building and lifting support columns of house.

No Public Input

**Motion to remove Ms. McCoy-Grantham, second Mr. Crespo
Replacement: 10.4 caliper inches native canopy trees, Fl #1**

(j) 512 Greene Street, LLC: Represented by Scott Montgomery/Native Landscape Design. Landscape plan approval. Transplant (3) Sabal palms and (3) Paradise trees.

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

Notes: Mr. Montgomery and Ms. Newland represented homeowner. Discussion regarding proposal of changing parking from angle to straight in and problems incurred as a result of change. Requesting to transplant trees and palms to 209 Ann Street; abutting property, same owner and relocating dumpster to end of drive. No public Input

Motion to approve transplant to 209 Ann Street (3) Sabal palms and (3) Paradise trees, replace with (1) Sabal palm, (4) Silver palms and (5) Spanish Stoppers, as described in plans, Ms. McCoy-Grantham, second Mr. Curry.

(k) 209 Ann Street, LLC: Represented by Scott Montgomery/Native Landscape Design. Remove (1) Chinese Fan Palm and (1) Washingtonia Palm.

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

Cont. Pg. 5 Minutes 04/12/10

Item was taken off agenda for staff approval.

- (I) **1320 Simonton Street/Blue Marlin Motel:** Represented by Debra Yates.
Landscape Plan Approval.

Approved **Denied** **Tabled** **Further Action**

Notes: Ms. Debra Branham, General Manager represented the Hotel, instead Ms. Yates. Mr. Ramsingh asked to Ms. Yates, as a matter of procedure if she was still assigned to the project, in which she answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Ramsingh discussed Roberts Rules and asked her to recuse herself for this particular item and return when complete. Staff will have form to sign.

Ms. Branham, discussed project being 2 years old and finally beginning. Staff discussed minor changes or additional information of removing 2 Coconuts on ROW on Simonton and be replaced with Satinleaf trees and additional planting of 9 Spanish Stoppers and Sabal palms under the entrance overhang of the hotel,
No public Input

Motion to approve Mr. Curry, second Mr. McCoy-Grantham

8. Administrative Hearing: na

9. Champion Tree Nomination:

10. Discussion Items:

11. Staff and Emergency Approval Permits

- (a) **744 Windsor Lane, Stepehn Selka:** Remove (1) non-native Thrinax palm. Replace (1) native palm, minimum 4', Fl #1. **Permit #5489.**
- (b) **219 Olivia Street, Sibylle Bair:** Remove (1) Christmas palm. Replace (1) (1) native palm, minimum 4', Fl #1. **Permit #5490.**
- (c) **1615 Laird Street, Marta Acevedo:** Remove (1) Coconut palm. Replace (1) native palm, minimum 4', Fl #1. **Permit #5491.**
- (d) **City Key West/Cemetery:** Remove (1) Coconut palm. Replace with (1) native palm, minimum 4', Fl #1. **Permit #5492.**
- (e) **1801 Venetia Street, Fabiola Azuaje:** Remove (1) Coconut palm. Replace with (1) native palm, minimum 4', Fl #1. **Permit #5493.**
- (f) **518 Emma Street, Diane & Kevin Breen:** Remove (1) Coconut palm. Replace with (1) native palm, minimum 4', Fl #1. **Permit #5494.**
- (g) **1305-1307 Petronia Street, Philip Thorpe:** Remove (1) Washingtonia palm. Replace with (1) native palm, minimum 4', Fl #1. **Permit #5495.**

Adjourned Ms. McCoy-Grantham, second Mr. Curry 6:35 p.m.