Terrebonne Parish Tree Board 

TPCG Government Tower 6th Floor Conference Room

8026 Main Street, Houma, LA 70360

**Minutes of May 15, 2018**

**Present:** Trudy Hebert, Chair; Sandy Ostheimer, Vice-Chair; Myers McAllister, Secretary; Monica Harris; Diane Theriot, Linda Brashier, David Luke; Melissa Hutchinson, Chris Pulaski, Linda Henderson, Parish Liaison; **Quorum met**

**Absent:** Barton Joffrion, Mike Niette

* Meeting was called to order by Trudy Hebert, Chair at 11:34 AM.
* **Invocation** led by Monica Harris and said by all members.
* Minutes presented and **Motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting** was made by Monica Harris and seconded by Diane Theriot. The motion carried without objection.
* **Jennifer Gerbasi**, Recovery Assistance and Mitigation Planning was introduced as a guest speaking on the mitigation of local properties, including a bald cypress grove which has be nominated as a recipient of the Tree-mendous Tree Award. Jennifer Gerbasi also requested guidance in the contracts with service providers for maintenance of the mitigated properties. The Board will provide guidance and support in the wording of the contracts moving forward (reference Tree Ordinance).
* **Stevie Smith of All South Consulting Engineers** working with Recreational Districts 2 and 3 was introduced by Chris Pulaski as a guest speaking to the development of the Bayou Country Sports Park on Hwy 311. Stevie Smith is working around right of ways, pipelines, and young, maturing trees. The area was once agricultural. **A motion was made by Myers McAllister and seconded by Sandy Ostheimer** for the Board to support the efforts being made to maintain as many trees as possible by the developers of the Bayou Country Sports Park in the creation of the soccer fields in the front portion on Hwy 311. The Board also acknowledges the opportunities for the Board to partner in later phases to landscape the area. The Board recommends a tree survey to document the trees in the undeveloped back areas of the project along Valhi.
* **Publications Report: Trudy Hebert** presented the Notable Trees Brochure to Sondra Corbett along with the requested photos and codes. 500 copies will be provided to the TPTB, and 500 will be provided to HACVB.
* **Finance Report:** **Trudy Hebert** reported that the Board has a carryover balance of **$14,797.00.**
* **Tree Ordinance Memo sent previously to Parishwide Recreation Districts to remind them to gain approval from the Tree Board with any plans that include trees on public properties. Trudy Hebert** reported that some members did not receive the memo. Since that meeting, ALL members have received the memo as related by parish staff.

**Old Business**

* **Tree-mendous Tree Award: Myers McAllister** reported that The Tree-mendous Tree Award for the second quarter will be presented to the Chevron Preservation and Maintenance Facility in Gray, LA, at the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday, May 23, 2018, at 6:00 PM.
* **A motion was made by Trudy Hebert** and seconded by Melissa Hutchinson to award the Terrebonne Parish Recovery Assistance and Mitigation Planning the Tree-mendous Tree Award for next quarter for the Cypress Grove created by the Recovery and Mitigation Department located at 205 Pierre St. Chauvin, LA for its work.
* **Projects for 2018-2019: Trudy Hebert** led the Board members in a discussion of possible future projects to include a tree survey for the Bayou Country Sports Park, landscaping for the Bayou Country Sports Park, development of language for maintenance contracts for Parish properties, Civic Center Blvd. Roundabout, North Campus Project, and the East Tunnel Blvd. Project (DOTD) for 2019.
* **Report from Tree School: Sandy Ostheimer** reported that the school is well worth the time spent. Discussions focused on damage control during construction and development and use of air root pots to prevent circular growth of root systems in trees. She encouraged any members who have not attended to attend at least one during their service on the Tree board.

**Announcements**

* St. Matthew’s trees are dying. The church is currently working with an arborist to aerate and fertilize.
* Presentation of Tree-mendous Tree Award at the May 23 Terrebonne Council Meeting at 6:00 PM.
* Next meeting announced to be June 19, 2018, at 11:30 AM on the 6th floor of Government Towers.
* **Motion to adjourn** was made by Melissa Hutchinson and seconded by Diane Theriot. Motion carried with no objection.

Submitted by
S. Myers McAllister, Secretary