

City of Newnan Tree Commission Minutes

January 11, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 by City Liaison Mike Furbush.
2. Attendance was taken. Present were Ellen Wood, Richard Prange, Laurie Pope, and J.R. Roberts. Casey Child, Jennifer Petrino, and new member David Carlson were absent.
3. No minutes from December 2023 since no meeting was held.

Old Business

- a. **No Old Business**

New Business

- a. **Proposed 2024 Tree Commission Schedule** – After brief discussion, it was agreed to continue generally holding meetings on the 2nd Thursday. The regular March meeting was cancelled in favor of the Annual Kindergarten Tree Plantings on 3.28.24 and 3.29.24.
- b. **Update on Tree City USA recertification** – Approval has been obtained, and the award should be ready in time for the tree planting.
- c. **Upcoming 2024 Tree Commission Tasks** – The regular slate of Tree Commission tasks are on the calendar for 2024, with no new added tasks.
- d. **Plan Review Training** – Mike will bring recent plans to discuss in the February meeting.
- e. **Plant Newnan Projects** – Richard Prange provided the update from the Plant Newnan commission –
 1. There is a planting of around 200 seedlings scheduled to take place on 1.27.24. The plantings are scheduled to take place in the “Tornado Alley” section along E Broad St.
 2. The planned Arboretum is still moving forward and is currently still in the design phase. Design input has thus far come from Auburn University thesis students. The City is looking into hiring a professional for additional input.
- f. **Tree Commission Elections** – Though a quorum was present, elections were tabled until the next meeting. J.R. Roberts agreed to continue secretary duties until elections could be held.

g. Update on 2023 Re-zonings, Annexations, and Tree Mgmt Plans – Mike provided updates on several recent projects –

1. Avery Park Townhomes – After 3 different reviews, the developer changed the Tree Save areas. Now, 17 of the 20 heritage trees that were originally slated to be removed are included in the Tree Save.
2. Lennar Townhomes, along Lower Fayetteville Rd – Project received rezoning. Comments were given to the developers, but comments were ignored. The approval process is ongoing.
3. Mill Creek, on Hospital Rd – During the review process, developers were given several comments they couldn't meet. No additional developments.
4. Newnan Crossing Townhomes – 4 to 5 acres added to Save area, and original plans to cross the creek for additional units have been abandoned.
5. Green Top Subdivision – 10 to 12 acres have been added to the Tree Save area. Rezoning has been approved; however, the development is currently the subject of a lawsuit.
6. Marriott Hotel, Celebrate Life Pkwy – Plans submitted with a focus on Tree Save along interstate. Plans gave greater consideration to impact.

Next Tree Commission Items

a. Commission Elections

Upcoming Tree Commission Meetings

- a. Next regular meeting is Thursday 2.15.24 – Mike is travelling during regular 2nd Thursday.

Respectfully submitted,
J.R. Roberts, Secretary