

City of Apalachicola Tree Committee
Meeting Agenda
January 15, 2025, at 5:00 P.M.
Old Library

Expected attendees.

Sam Berkheiser, Tree Committee (TC) member,
Scott Davis, TC Chair and agenda preparer,
Anita Grove, City Commissioner,
Donna Ingle, Parks and Recreation Committee member, and
Dennis Winterringer, TC member and preparer of meeting summary.

Action and discussion items:

1. Summary of December 18, 2024, meeting – Approve with or without revisions.
2. Stabilization of Chapman oak at Chestnut Street Cemetery (Davis).
 - Has Mr. Davis received the Florida Forest Service score for the tree, which could qualify it as a Florida champion tree?
 - \$4,200 quote obtained from Paulson’s Tree Service LLC - reduction pruning, a metal shield to deflect water from the rotten trunk, and supportive cabling that would be anchored into the ground.
 - City funding of the work.
 - Either from money obtained by the City Manager Travis Wade in selling City excess property (preferred) or alternatively money from the Reforestation Fund.
 - As soon as possible before Mr. Wade leaves City employment, a meeting of Messrs. Davis, Paulson, and Wade.
3. Final planning for Arbor Day event (all).
 - When: Saturday, January 25, 1 to 3 p.m.
 - Where: Apalachicola Margaret Key Public Library (corner of Avenue E and 12th Street), parking lot.
 - What: Give away trees provided by Florida Forest Service (FFS). Budget increased to \$1,000 this year from \$500 in past years.
 - Requested 101 trees.
 - River birch (Betula nigra) – 5,
 - Southern magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora) – 11,
 - Longleaf pine (Pinus palustris) – 10,
 - Sycamore (Platanus occidentalis) – 10,
 - Sand live oak (Quercus geminata) – 10,
 - Southern live oak (Quercus virginiana) – 10,
 - Pond cypress (Taxodium ascendens) – 10,
 - Bald cypress (Taxodium distichum) – 10,
 - Toothache tree (Zanthoxylum americanum) – 10,
 - Needle palm (Rhapidophyllum hystrix) – 5, and
 - Cabbage palm (Sabal palmetto) – 10.

- All in 3-gallon containers except one southern magnolia in 1-gallon container.
- Participants other than TC members.
 - Which FFS forester will deliver the trees and participate? Emily Lanpher or an alternate?
 - Will Florida A&M University Extension Service agents Sam Hand, Ed Duke, and Angle Forde attend?
- Preliminary tasks that have been done.
 - Media release.
 - Apalachicola Times.
 - Oyster Radio.
 - Posting on City's Facebook page.
 - Entry on library's and Patrons of Apalachicola Library System calendars and posting of flyer on their Facebook pages.
 - Bulletin board flyers posted at the library, Piggly Wiggly, and businesses downtown.
 - Arbor Day proclamation adopted by City Commission at its January 7, 2025, regular monthly meeting.
- Lethal bronzing disease – Will Mr. Berkheiser bring injection equipment? And demonstrate on a palm stump?
- Handouts.
 - Tree planting and watering instructions. Which one? Who will bring copies?
 - “Lethal Bronzing Disease” publication by University of Florida Extension Service. Mr. Winterringer will bring seven copies (left over from last year).
 - “Oxytetracycline Hydrochloride (OTC-HCl) Application for Control of Palm Phytoplasmas” publication by University of Florida Extension Service. Mr. Winterringer will bring seven copies.
 - FFS “Forest Trees of Florida” handbook. Mr. Winterringer will bring nine copies.

4. FFS grant for Lafayette Park tree planting (all).

- FFS grant for \$10,000 to plant 34 trees of 12 native species; \$10,000 City match to be drawn from Reforestation Fund.
- Has grant agreement been finalized by FFS and signed by the City?
- Starting in late December 2024 and running for about a month to late January 2025, the City Planner published notices in the Apalachicola Times and Tallahassee Democrat soliciting contractor bids.

5. City Manager's and TC's proposed revisions to the tree protection requirements of the Land Development Code (Winterringer).

At its January 7, 2025, meeting, the City Commission decided to begin formal adoption of the proposed revisions at its February meeting (first of two readings before adoption). Accordingly, the City won't follow the procedures of its Policy No. 2, and workshops won't be held to give the public opportunities to discuss and comment on the draft requirements.

6. Anything else.

7. Next meeting. 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at the old library.