

THOMASTON TREE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 29, 2023

Attending: Jane Burdette Cathy Ashberry  
Luke Haney – Absent Susan Formby  
Absent: Levi Long - Absent Kyle McGee – Public Works Director  
Lisa Salter Oasis Nichols – City Clerk  
Don Greathouse, Councilman

1. Meeting called to order at 11:03 a.m. by Chair Jane Burdette
2. Roll Call – Luke Haney and Levi Long were absent due to work issues.
3. Minutes of the February 22, 2023, meeting approved. Motion: Cathy Ashberry. 2<sup>nd</sup> Susan Formby. Approved
4. Adopt Agenda - Motion Cathy Ashberry. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lisa Salter.. Approved
5. Public Works Director Report – Kyle McGee reported that 34 trees had been planted in March at various locations around the city including replacement trees on Griffin Ave, Lakeside Park, Greatest Generation Memorial Park, both sides of the Silvertown entrance and 3 in the new Food Truck Lot. More trees will be planted in the Fall. A River Birch was planted at the Silvertown Dog Park to celebrate National Arbor Day and it will be dedicated to local animal rescue groups and shelter workers on April 28.  
He also reported that the first Memorial Bench had been ordered by the family of Mr. Britty Dickens and will be placed on the Archives grounds. Estimated delivery is 5 weeks. Tree Board will attend the dedication of the bench and will invite our garden club friends.

6. Social Media – Kyle will post a link to the Tree Board FB page on the Parks & Rec webpage. Susana will follow up with him.
7. Growth Award - We will continue to monitor our progress toward the award and provide Oasis with the documentation needed.
8. Other Business – Tree Board was very pleased to have City Councilman, Don Greathouse, attend our meeting. He is very knowledgeable about trees and made a request that we look into bringing back the American Chestnut Tree which was wiped out by blight. He advised that there may be a more blight resistant variety that could be planted locally. Tree Board will look into this because it will be a good project for our Growth Award designation. He also mentioned how trees and other plantings beautify the corridors into and out of Thomaston and that it could be improved. He suggested how trees can be used to mitigate damage from stormwater run off and there could be grant money the City can tap into for this purpose. We offered our assistance.

Tree Board will participate in the Art & Soul festival at GGMP on Saturday, April 22.

Georgia Forestry Commission will participate with us and bring Smokey Bear..

**National Arbor Day, April 28**, As voted on at the Feb meeting, Jane Burdette will work on the agenda and proclamation with Oasis Nichols and report back to Tree Board members.

Motion to adjourn made by Cathy Ashberry. . 2<sup>nd</sup> Susan Formby. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jane S. Burdette, Chair