

El Portal – Tree Board Meeting

February 11, 2020

Introductions – Councilperson Vimari Roman, Chair.

Members present:

Adam Old*
Blair Walker (4 year resident)
Amy Mehu (resident for 36 years)
Fernando Vasquez (resident since 2002)
Hugh Gladwin* (resident since 1984)
Robert Ruano (Consultant)
*Original Tree Board members

1. Tree City USA board requirements. 3-4 meetings should be sufficient.
2. Arbor Day Celebration and Chair decision – Potluck at River Estates Park, Women’s Club organizes and make sure setup is okay. Village Manager order chairs or tents. Village orders cake. Saturday, April 25, 2020, usually afternoon (3:30 to 5:30pm). Proclamation given on site. Earnst will play music. Fernando Vasquez is Arbor Day Chair.
3. Everyone agrees to be on the Board in 2020. Roman will officially appoint.
4. Amy gets saplings from Arbor Day, Bald Cypress. Adam had printed tags on trees in the past. Maybe pines. Education portion would be good – Mark Torok, Citizens of South Florida. Perhaps a few trees that are part of the Neat Streets planting.
5. Sponsorships – Plant the Future and others, potentially. Sponsorship divided by separate people. Sponsor for sound would be good – to have better mikes and speakers.
6. Good communication about upcoming trees. Robert to send new tree planting areas.
7. Gladwin – that Tree Board would look at a long-term tree plan for the village. Adam and Hugh did a lot of it in the past. Should have an update on what has been done and see about updating. Old says Omni did that work (Earth Advisors) through FAU, along with inventory. Discussion of citizen-led tree inventory.
8. Annual tree trimming plan is before hurricane season, trying to avoid bulk pickup charges. Same company last two years. New contractor this year.
9. Board agreed to 4 meetings per year – one each quarter starting with next Tree Board meeting on Tuesday, March 10th at 6pm at El Portal Village Hall.