

Beautification Advisory Committee Background on Arbor Day & Tree City USA

(From 2024 Committee Records)

Arbor Day 2024

From the Committee's April 3, 2024 Minutes:

D. [ID 24-3474](#) Committee Member Reports on Preparations for 4/24/24 Arbor Day Event

Committee Member Sharon Watts confirmed the date, time, and location for the Committee's 2024 Arbor Day Event (Wednesday, April 24 beginning at 9:00 A.M. near the Calusa Park Butterfly Garden), and she communicated the status of the arrangements that have been completed and are still in process.

Chair Connelly advised the Committee of the selected species of tree that was identified for planting as part of the Arbor Day Event (Holywood lignum vitae, or as known by its scientific name, Guaiacum Sanctum) with the help of the Calusa Garden Club members, and she indicated that the City's landscape contractor was in the process of procuring an appropriate specimen for the Event.

From the Committee's June 5, 2024 Minutes:

B. [ID 24-3578](#) April 24, 2024 Arbor Day Event Debrief (S. Connelly)

Chair Shelli Connelly provided the Committee with a brief, verbal update on the April 24th event, noting that two trees were actually planted in Calusa Park in the vicinity of the Butterfly Garden in cooperation with, and with the support of, the Calusa Garden Club, in honor of Arbor Day 2024.

Tree #1 was a Bay Cedar tree donated by Affordable Landscaping and Design, the City's landscape contractor, while Tree #2 was a Lingum Vitae tree which was purchased at a reduced cost through the assistance of Mr. Andrew Kirlin, Former Chair of the Beautification Advisory Committee.

In response to the Motion advanced regarding the purchase of the Lingum Vitae tree, Public Works Director Justin Martin provided Ms. Shelli Connelly with the steps to secure reimbursement for her expense in procuring Tree #2.

MOTION by Member McDonald, seconded by Member Cory, that Reimbursement of the \$100.00 Out-of-Pocket Cost to Chair Shelli Connelly to Procure the Committee's Desired Lingum Vitae tree for the 2024 Arbor Day Event, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

The Committee next discussed obtaining identification plaques and stands to identify the donor, event, and date of the two trees planted for Arbor Day 2024. Member Sharon Watts volunteered to investigate the current cost for procuring and inscribing the proposed plaques.

MOTION by Chair Connelly, seconded by Member McDonald, that an Allocation of the Beautification Advisory Committee's 2024 Fiscal Year Budget in an Amount Not To Exceed \$400.00 to Procure Two Identification Plaques and Stands for the 2024 Arbor Day Trees, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

From the Committee's September 4, 2024 Minutes:

[ID 24-3783](#) Plaques & Stands for the 2024 Arbor Day Tree Plantings (S. Watts)

Committee Member Sharon Watts advised the Committee that she was scheduled to receive the two 2024 Arbor Day tree plaques and stands on September 5th, and that she would install and photograph them for the Committee's record and benefit prior to the Committee's October meeting.

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From the Committee's October 2, 2024 Minutes:

E. [ID 24-3865](#) Arbor Day Installed Plaques & Stands (S. Watts)

Committee Member Sharon Watts shared photos of the installed plaques and stands identifying the Committee's two 2024 Arbor Day tree plantings in Calusa Park near the Butterfly Garden along Winterberry Drive.

The Committee thanked Member Watts for her effort in successfully procuring and installing the desired identification plaques.



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