



Minutes For November 7, 2022

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Mobile Public Library, Moorer Spring Hill Branch

The meeting began on time at 5:30 P.M. attended by David Roberts, David A. Roberts, John Robb, Peter Toler, Ann Jurgens-Pond and Paul Icolano via speaker phone.

**1) Approval of Minutes** August minutes were approved by proxy.

**2) Treasurer's Report** John Robb delivered the treasurer's report submitted by Danny Walker, **Income:** four \$100 donations

**Payments:**

P.O. Box purchase -- \$83 for six months

Secretary of State filing fee \$236

**Account Balance: \$2368**

John Robb noted that it was imperative to remember, and communicate to the public, that aside from these initial administrative costs, all proceeds of the organization would be focused on tree purchase and planting, and that in-kind donations of trees would likely continue as well, noting the donation of live oaks offered already from the Philip Dodd Nursery.

**3) Current Projects:**

Medal of Honor Park Memorial Planting scheduled for November 29,

Bids are out for root collar excavation on Hillcrest Road Median project

Progress is uncertain for the Airport Blvd. Median project but should move ahead soon. Peter Toler noted that Right of Way Permits have been submitted to the City Engineering Department but the trees may have to be of a smaller stature than live oaks to suit the environment, citing "Right Tree, Right Place" guidelines. Toler also noted that he will identify the proper locations for planting, depending on what trees are removed beforehand and that the City of Mobile GIS Department has mapped the area and everything should be in line for planting once the project receives final approval. It was noted that the next Tree Commission Meeting is November 15, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. and this may be on the agenda.

**4) Proposed Projects**

David Grayson with "Lagniappe," who initially contacted John Robb about an "Adopt A Tree" program, is no longer with "Lagniappe," but John will follow up by exploring similar "Adopt A Tree" Program formats around the country.

A Grant-Writing Committee, including Stafford, Kern, Robb and Jurgens-Pond, has been established and has met to explore all possible opportunities.

**5) Fundraising**

Initial issues with the “donate” link on the website have been resolved. The question of donation submissions and how to make contributing as attractive as possible was discussed. A decision was reached to shift focus from the online format and highlight the more traditional method of mailing checks to the Post Office Box. It was decided that the Post Office Box should be featured on the website with encouragement for contributions to be sent by check. This, Robb noted, would also ensure proper bookkeeping.

**6) Open Position for Volunteer Coordinator**

John Robb noted that he would like to fill the position of Volunteer Coordinator on the Board. He stated that he is encouraged however about the possibilities that exist in working with the University of South Alabama’s “South Serves” program and Mobile’s “Volunteer Connect.” Bid attending an introductory meeting on the program, he noted the college’s commitment to getting students involved in the community and the potential benefits that exist for both students and non-profits like FOMT. He will continue to follow up as students prepare for fall 2023 internships.

**Adjourn**