



# City of Venice

401 West Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
www.venicegov.com

## Meeting Minutes Planning Commission

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Monday, June 24, 2019

1:30 PM

Community Hall

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### Tree Ordinance Workshop

#### I. Call to Order

A Workshop Meeting of the Planning Commission was held this date in Community Hall at City Hall. Chair Barry Snyder called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

#### II. Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Chair Barry Snyder, Shaun Graser, Tom Murphy, Kit McKeon, Richard Hale, Scott Williams and Bill Willson

#### Also Present

Liaison Council Member Charles Newsom, City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, Development Services Director Jeff Shrum, City Arborist Jim Yelverton, Jennifer Daoulas Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., and Recording Secretary Adrian Jimenez.

#### III. Audience Participation

Chris Rothwiler, 608 Narvaezi Street, spoke on live oaks, designation by the county, limb removal, local arborist, tree safety, non-code cuts, county fines, and protection of trees.

Ronald Courtney, 435 Otter Creek, spoke on tree maintenance, property responsibilities, educational programs, Homeowners Associations (HOA) and businesses, enforcement, and ordinance evaluations.

Courtland Dalton, 219 Rio Terra, spoke on live oak trees, Sarasota County jurisdiction, sidewalks, property damage, resolving concerns, continuity, ordinance, HOAs, multi-families, fees, and intentions.

#### IV. Workshop

##### [19-4065](#)

Review 1st Draft of City of Venice Tree Ordinance  
Staff: Jeff Shrum, AICP, Development Services Director and Jim Yelverton, BCMA, City Arborist  
Consultants: Kelley Klepper, AICP, and Jennifer Daoulas, PLA, ASLA, Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc.

Mr. Shrum spoke on city council direction, county and city process, community access, permits, city staff, county ordinance, draft fee schedule, terms and regulations, public input, and October 1, 2019 deadline.

Ms. Daoulas spoke on existing county codes, tree preservation codes, updated definitions, prohibitions, exemption, permits, tree preservation, relocation and replacement standards, tree mitigation funds, penalties and fees, tree inches, Venetian trees, Critical Root Zone (CRZ), Tree Protection Zone (TPZ), and problem trees.

Mr. Shrum spoke on tree inches, methods of measurement, nursery stock, size requirements, planted and new trees, county process, protection of grand trees, historical and cultural impacts, council and arborist recommendations, root zones, property damage, retaining existing trees, and definitions.

Ms. Daoulas continued on prohibitions, tree removal, tree location, injury to trees, exemptions, emergencies, tree growers, utilities, permits, application and fees, tree protection and replacement plan.

Mr. Shrum spoke on preemptions, private property laws, grand trees, ordinances, hazardous or dangerous trees, Florida statutes, single family home lots, required permits, replacements, and answered board question on residential zoning process.

Ms. Daoulas spoke on hazardous trees, tree recovery, standards, and permits.

Mr. Shrum spoke on tree growers.

Ms. Daoulas spoke on permitting and approval to include proposed project, pre-submittal conference, creating plans, submitted plans, site visit, review plan, and approved plans.

Mr. Shrum spoke on permit process, requirements and regulations, and licensed professionals.

Ms. Daoulas answered board question on home owner site visits, and inventory and measurements.

Mr. Shrum spoke on single family lots, professional arborist, and answered board questions on city inventory, council concerns, public and private properties, continued to speak on tree funds, and source of revenue.

Discussion took place on removal of trees and permit exemptions.

Ms. Daoulas spoke on trimming techniques.

Mr. Yelverton spoke on trimming and hazardous trees.

Discussion took place on hazardous trees, aerial inventory and sources, consulting companies, identifications, tracking, canopy tree covers, ground shades, heritage trees, permits, city properties, protected trees, and Venetian trees.

Ms. Daoulas spoke on protected trees, measurements, and heritage and Venetian trees.

Mr. Yelverton spoke on three point system.

Discussion took place on Venetian trees, tax breaks, maintaining, incentives, voluntary programs, property owners, and answered board question on requirements, public assets, tree pruning, and designation of trees.

Ms. Daoulas continued on replacements, calculations, Sarasota County rules, flexibility, measurements, and Florida Friendly Landscaping.

Mr. Yelverton answered board questions on number of tree requirements and policies.

Discussion took place on lot coverage, structures, driveways, green space, tree accommodations, tree growth, locations, over planting, vegetations, buffers, landscaping, tree heights, species, native trees, habitats, Florida Friendly standards, Banyan and Fig trees, tree removal, tree list, and ordinances.

Mr. Dalton spoke on acreage and structures.

Ms. Daoulas answered audience questions on acreage and structures, and continued on tree mitigation, and funds.

Discussion took place on recognizing trees, preserving existing trees, Florida Friendly Figs, policy decisions, and acreage.

Steve Hazeltine, P.O. Box 236, spoke on inches and county ordinances.

Discussion took place on existing and new developments, replacements, size of trees, infrastructure interference, tree funds, policy decisions, alternative ways, defining problem tree, Planned Unit Developments

(PUDs), single family properties, private lots, required tree placements, space accommodations, landscaping plans, individual lots, incentives, retaining native trees, buffers, canopy coverage, average lot sizes, lot coverage, Land Development Regulations (LDRs), pavers, septic systems, penalties, and cost of trees and funds.

Ms. Daoulas spoke on appeals and enforcements to include land disturbance permits and applicants, periodic site inspections, notice to company, and resubmittal of applications.

Mr. Shrum spoke on appeals and enforcement process.

Ms. Daoulas spoke on penalties and fees, after the fact permit, tree removal and replacements, optional payments to tree mitigation funds, and future considerations.

Mr Shrum spoke on fee schedules, inventory of trees, incentives, workforce housing, comprehensive plan, required trees, tree regulations, policy decisions, permit fees, tree removal, tree fund contributions, penalties, reviewing applications, inspections, adjusted fees, and county permit fees.

Board discussion took place on required trenching, live oak roots, area between sidewalk and road trees, problem trees, available space aspects, labor, over hanging trimming, certified arborist requirements, education, other municipalities, certified tree trimmer applications, replacement tree criteria, canopy trees, Florida Friendly, native and non-native species, cold sensitive, age of trees, litigation funds, memorial trees, private and public properties, final recommendations, pruning violations and fees, arborist and HOA fees, public education, tree removal, HOA presentations, educational outreaches, Sarasota Memorial Hospital lot, incentives, acronym section, and Architectural Control Committee (ACC) rules and regulations.

Mr. Newsom spoke on city and county ordinances, best practices in other counties, hurricane language, and wind damage.

Mr. Shrum answered questions on hurricane language and problem trees and continued on council presentations, and city attorney consults.

Mr. Yelverton answered board questions on time of identifying trees.

Bob Vedder, 603 Four Bays Drive, Nokomis, spoke on rushing the ordinance, best practices in other cities, notice of tree removals, permits, canopy road considerations, required trees, and PUDs.

Amber Delehanty, Simply Trees, LLC, spoke on definitions, clear trunks, soil levels, root flare zones, native species, inappropriate pruning techniques, lions tailing, certified tree trimmers, public education, master tree species, seagrapes, and penalties.

Barbara Willis, spoke on condominium owners, gated communities, public and county information, and landscapers.

Mr. Hazeltine spoke on pruning, Sarasota County ordinance, mitigations, 40 inches per acre, tree removals, replacements, and feasibility.

Mr. Dalton spoke on ideas, city consultations, tree replacements, PUDs, and tree removal.

Mr. Shrum answered audience and board question on tree removal, and continued on required inches, best practices, family properties, and October 1, 2019 ordinance deadline.

#### **V. Comments by Staff**

There were none.

#### **VI. Comments by Planning Commission Members**

There were none.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

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Chair

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Recording Secretary