

**Town of James Island**  
**Minutes of the Tree Council**  
**September 10, 2024**

**Present:** David Tomblin, Julie Hallman, Natalie Rumph & Robin Hardin

**Absent Members:** Garrett Milliken, Jenny Welch & Paul Cantrell

**Staff:** Keith LaDeaux **Guest:** Mayor Brook Lyon

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the September 10, 2024, meeting were approved

**Nominations for Tree Award:** Keith noted an outstanding Live Oak on Stiles Point Drive and will get the address. David noted a nice Dogwood but Natalie said that, with climate change, she no longer recommends Dogwoods to her clients.

Presentation of the Tree Steward Award will be made to Lighthouse Point Civic Club on Tuesday, September 24, 6pm. David has the template for the Certificate and Bill Lyon will take photos.

**Updates on Arbor Day:** Natalie recommends that we order trees bareroot and place each in (1) gallon fabric root pouches – this will save potting/wrapping in burlap and recipients will be able to place trees in their root pouches directly into the ground.

The number and type of trees to order was considered and decided (50) each Tulip Poplar, Eastern Redbud and Northern Red Oak would be ideal. For the spring tree giveaway, (11) peach trees are being held for us in an upstate nursery and additional fruit trees will be ordered. A nice informative card, created by Natalie, will be attached to each tree seedling with different planting tips according to whether a canopy or understory tree. Recipients will be directed to the Town's website for further directions on planting and taking care of their trees.

*David made a motion that we proceed with the purchase of tree seedlings, soil and cards for what will probably be less than \$500. The motion passed unanimously. David will place the order and Natalie will keep seedlings watered until we are ready to convene and pot them for distribution. Seedlings will be kept behind Town Hall under the security camera. Soil, ProMix, will come from Hyam's either as a donation or purchase. Final suggestion was to include a photograph of the mature tree with the seedling.*

Arbor Day Tree Giveaway will be held in conjunction with Town's Holiday Market on Friday, December 6, 2024.

**For the Good of the Order:** Discussion centered around the appearance and needs for our booth. The Town probably has a tent we can use to set up under and, if not, one will be purchased. (3) tables will be needed and Natalie has fold out benches we can use to hold the tree seedlings. Booth location was determined to be in the front parking lot in the double spaces next to the gravel lot.

A raffle for a few larger trees and a holiday-decorated wreath will be held at our booth to create even more interest. Mayor Lyon will request (6) 3 gallon Magnolias and holiday wreaths from Hyam's and then go on to Lowe's, if our request cannot be met.

Julie will order traditional raffle tickets from Amazon.

*The next meeting of the TOJI Tree Council will be Tuesday, October 8, 5pm.*