

RESOLUTION NO. 017R-2649

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA CREATING AN AD HOC TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO REVIEW OPTIONS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF SARASOTA TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE COMMITTEE; STATING SPECIFIC ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR THE READING OF THIS RESOLUTION BY TITLE ONLY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting of June 5, 2017, following discussion on proposed Zoning Text Amendment Application 17-ZTA-02, the City Commission passed a motion to appoint an ad hoc committee to make recommendations to the City Commission regarding the City's Tree Protection Ordinance (Article VII, Division 3.1 of the Zoning Code); and,

WHEREAS, the City Charter provides that the City Commission shall create and establish temporary committees (as distinguished from permanent advisory boards) by the adoption of a Resolution; and,

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting of June 19, 2017, the City Commission considered a memorandum from the City Attorney dated June 9, 2017 concerning questions to be considered incident to the adoption of a Resolution creating the Tree Advisory Committee and referred the matter to staff to make recommendations; and,

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting of July 3, 2017, the City Commission considered a memorandum from the Director of Development Services dated June 20, 2017 entitled "Staff recommendation related to establishment of an ad hoc Tree Advisory Committee"; and,

WHEREAS, the City Commission adopted a motion to follow the staff recommendations outlined in the June 20, 2017 memorandum from the Director of Development Services and directed that those recommendations be incorporated into the text of the Resolution establishing such Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Creation of Advisory Committee: The City Commission hereby creates an ad hoc special purpose advisory committee to be known and referred to as the Tree Advisory Committee. The Committee shall consist of seven (7) members to be appointed by the City Commission.

Section 2. Membership: The members of the Committee shall be appointed by majority vote of the City Commission from the below listed "communities of interest" or categories as follows:

- (1) Two (2) neighborhood representatives
- (2) Two (2) development interest representatives
- (3) One (1) downtown core resident
- (4) One (1) Chamber of Commerce representative or downtown core merchant
- (5) One (1) landscape architect or arborist

At its first meeting, the committee shall select a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson from among its members.

Section 3. Duties: The Tree Advisory Committee shall focus on making recommendations to the City Commission regarding each of the enumerated issues in this section below and shall provide its recommendations to the City Commission with regard to each of the following specific issues set out below:

1. How to best address the issue of City residents who would like to remove a healthy tree in order to re-landscape their privately-owned properties.
2. How to best address the issue of unsafe conditions caused by healthy trees on public property. (e.g. roots lifting sidewalks) The enumeration of this task among the

Committee's duties shall not be construed to restrict or limit the authority of the City administration to remove trees on public property that are the cause of hazardous or dangerous conditions on public rights of way or to otherwise eliminate or improve unsafe conditions on public property resulting from the presence of trees during the time that the Committee is active.

3. How to best address the issue of healthy trees on public property that cause damage to public infrastructure (e.g. utilities) or that impair or reduce the rights of private property owners to the use and enjoyment of their properties. (e.g. views)

4. Should the same criteria be applied to determine whether to issue a permit to remove a tree classified as a Class II invasive species as is applied to determine whether to issue a permit to remove a native tree?

5. Should the current "sliding scale" mitigation standards for tree removal be revised, and if so, how?

6. Are the current fees charged for tree removal and for mitigation of removed trees fair and reasonable? Should there be a differentiation between such charges that are imposed on homeowners of residential properties and on owner/developers of commercial projects?

7. Review proposed canopy tree ordinance and provide comments or recommendations regarding the proposed ordinance.

8. In addition to items 1 through 7 above, the Committee shall be further authorized to make other recommendations regarding potential amendments to the City's Tree Protection Ordinance (Article VII, Division 3.1 of the Zoning Code) as the majority of its members deem appropriate.

Section 4. Meetings: All meetings of the Committee shall be noticed to the public and advertised in advance and shall be open to attendance by the public. All meetings of the Committee shall be held at City Hall. Written minutes shall be kept of all meetings of the Committee. The Committee shall meet on such dates and times as determined by majority vote of its members. The Committee shall meet no more than twice each calendar month. The duration of each meeting shall not exceed two (2) hours. The Committee shall be authorized to receive public input at its meetings. A quorum of four (4) members shall be required for the Committee to conduct its business.

Section 5. Staff Assistance: The City Manager shall designate a staff liaison to the Committee.

Section 6. Duration of Committee: The Committee shall make its recommendations to the City Commission no later than one year from the date of its first meeting.

Section 7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

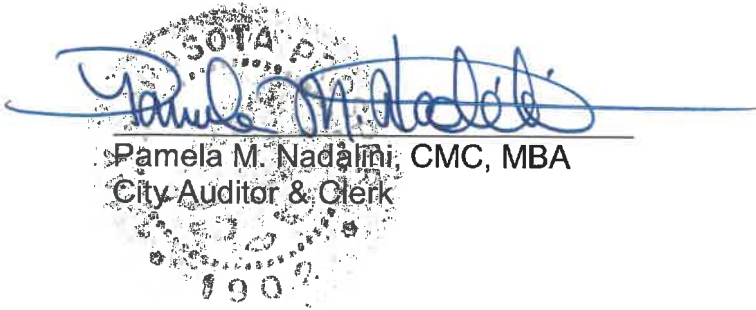
ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Sarasota, Florida upon reading by title only, after posting on the bulletin board at City Hall for at least three (3) days prior to adoption, as authorized by Article IV, Section 2 of the Charter of the City of Sarasota this 21st day of August 2017.

CITY OF SARASOTA



Shelli Freeland Eddie, Mayor

Attest:



Pamela M. Nadalmi, CMC, MBA
City Auditor & Clerk

Yes Mayor Freeland Eddie

Yes Vice Mayor Alpert

Yes Commissioner Ahearn-Koch

Yes Commissioner Brody

Yes Commissioner Shaw