DARLINGTON CITY TREE BOARD
Minutes from Monday, June 3, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.
City Administration, 410 Pearl St.

Attending were Tree Board members Mr. James, Mr. Ervin, Ms. Brown, and Mrs. Brasington; Ms. Rock, planning director; and guest Lee Andrews.

Ms. Rock called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

300 Sanders Street Tree Plan: Mr. Andrews presented a map of the Harmon Baldwin Recreation Center at 300 Sanders Street. He wants to renew the landscape to better showcase the building as well as function better. There are currently three holly trees at the front, which he wants to keep and add one more to make it symmetrical. There is a large magnolia, a fir tree, and six Bradford pear trees. He said they cut the crepe myrtle trees way back and they will remain and have already started to regrow. His main goal is to get rid of the Bradford pear trees that are beyond their life cycle. He also wants to dress up the flag pole with some low-growth holly to accentuate it. He wants to add additional crepe myrtle trees to the parking islands to match. Mr. Ervin suggested a live oak or willow oak if space allowed. **Ms. Brown made a motion to allow Mr. Andrews to remove the Bradford pear trees and replace with other trees. Ms. Brasington made the second. The motion carried unanimously.** Ms. Brown recommended only choosing dogwoods if he had irrigation and buying larger, more established trees rather than the smaller ones that the grant offers. Other suggestions included poplar and maple trees. Mr. Andrews said he wanted to alert the Board to the back of the Virgil Wells park where they will soon clear out some trees that impede the drainage system.

Approval of Minutes from the February 25, 2019, meeting: Ms. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Ervin made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

South Main Street Project Update: Ms. Rock said that every property owner would have to sign a release even if the tree was going to be in the right-of-way. She also said that DOT plans to install sidewalk on that side of the street, so she is not certain how this will impact the project's progress. Mr. Ervin said to talk with Roosevelt Scott, who had previously said he would help get volunteers to get the project going. Ms. Brown suggested starting with the cherry trees since they are grouped together and maybe trying to use the grant to get the dogwoods.

Palmetto Pride Tree Grant: Mr. James said he had locations on Cashua Street to plant 10 dogwoods between Russell and Warley Street. Ms. Brown asked to add crepe myrtles to fill out the City Lane Parking lot so that each island has trees as well as adding some dogwoods and crepe myrtles along the back of City Lane. She said we would need 10 down City Lane and six for the parking island plus bags to keep them watered. Ms. Brown asked about the curious crepe myrtles on North Main Street across from the library. The trees have little room to grow and are often hacked back to keep out of the roadway or pedestrians' way. Ms. Brown made a motion to remove those trees and use the trees on City Lane as the replacement. Ms. Brasington made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

DARLINGTON CITY TREE BOARD
Minutes from Monday, September 30, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.
City Administration, 410 Pearl St.

Attending were Tree Board members Mr. James, Ms. Brown, and Mrs. Brasington; and Ms. Rock, planning director.

Ms. Rock called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from the June 3, 2019, meeting: Ms. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. James made the second. The motion carried unanimously.

South Main Street Project Update: Ms. Rock said that every property owner would have to sign a release even if the tree was going to be in the right-of-way. She has mailed out agreements and received some back for the first phase of the project, accounting for 7 trees. She will continue to work with SCDOT to get plans approved and move forward with the project this year.

Cashua Street Project Update: Ms. Rock said she had sent out agreements for property owners to sign and has begun to receive them back signed.

Palmetto Pride Tree Grant: Ms. Rock said she would know this week if we received the 52 trees we requested in the grant. These would be crepe myrtles and dogwoods for City Lane and the adjoining parking lot, the South Main Street Project, and the Cashua Street Project.

Arbor Day Project: Ms. Rock asked the Board what they wanted to serve as this year's Arbor Day project. Choices include Phase One of the South Main Street Project, the Cashua Street Project, and the Darlington Garden Club's project on Orange St. Ms. Brown said the Club wants to install crepe myrtle trees on Orange Street adjacent to the historic Trinity church cemetery and in the City Lane parking lot to replace some of those dying varieties. **Ms. Brown made a motion to approve of the Garden Club's plan. Mrs. Brasington made the second. The motion carried unanimously.** Mr. James noted the Board had previously planted some trees at the cemetery for Arbor Day not long ago. Ms. Rock said it was two black gum trees in 2014. **Mr. James made a motion to use the first phase of the South Main Street Tree Project as the Arbor Day project with the Cashua Street Project as back up should issues with SCDOT prevent the planting in time. Mrs. Brasington made the second. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Rock said she would mail out the location for the Arbor Day ceremony closer to the date, but it would be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 6, as well as word whether the City has been awarded the Palmetto Pride grant.

Ms. Brown suggest the Board research and consider Gingko Trees as street trees and for the courthouse grounds due to their color and ability to survive in hostile environments.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.