



## City of Rome Tree Board

### Minutes

February 1, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

Rome-Floyd ECO Center

PRESENT: Hannah Bagley, KRFB Program Coordinator  
John Hendrickson, Tree Board Chairman  
Ernest Watson, City of Rome Arborist  
Chad Hampton, City of Rome Street Department Director  
Meredith Ulmer, Assistant City Manager  
Keith Mickler, Floyd County Extension Coordinator  
Michael Skeen, Floyd County Public Works Director  
Josh Goodman, Georgia Power Utility Arborist  
Terry Trew, Tree Board Member  
Georgia Burns, Tree Board Member  
Terry Paige, Tree Board Member  
Carolyn McGuinness, Tree Board Member  
Pam Roberts, Tree Board Member

GUEST: Jake Hagar, South Rome Alliance Executive Director

#### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to Order by John Hendrickson. Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

#### Reports:

##### City of Rome:

Chad Hampton reported that Ernest Watson, City Arborist, has received his TRAQ certification. International Paper provided the funding of \$5,100 to replace two Bald Cypress trees at Burwell Creek that were lost to the gas line project.

Fourteen trees are being planted in downtown areas for the Arbor Day Celebration on February 17th. They are as follows:

- 4 Cherokee Princess Dogwoods West First Street behind City Hall
- 1 Merlot Redbud West First Street behind City Hall
- 3 White Texas Redbuds West First Street behind Synovus Bank
- 1 Merlot Redbud Second Avenue and East Sixth Street
- 1 Green Vase Zelkova Broad Street in front of Synovus Bank
- 3 Merlot Redbuds Riverbend Drive and Second Avenue
- 1 Southern Red Oak 403 East Third Avenue

### Floyd County:

Michael Skeen reported 4 trees were removed in November 2021 and 17 trees were removed in December 2021.

### Berry College:

Hannah Bagley reported on behalf of Eddie Elsberry, Berry College is currently planting 400 Loblolly Pines. They also have plans to plant 400 acres of Longleaf Pines which will take place over the next few years.

### Georgia Power:

Josh Goodman reported that Georgia Power trimmed 300 miles of treetops by helicopter followed by clean ups. Georgia Power is in process of laying more underground service. They maintain 1700 miles in Northwest Georgia. He also added he will have Dogwood and Sawtooth Oak saplings to give away at Arbor Day.

### County Extension Office:

Keith Mickler reported that the Asian Longhorn Asian Beetle is now being monitored in Georgia. He also distributed packets of pollinator blend flower seeds from UGA Extension for local gardens.

### Old Business

At the annual Bring One for the Chipper held in January 2022, 181 trees were brought to the location and recycled by local fisherman. In total there were 56 seedlings distributed by the volunteering group - Boy Scouts Troop 30 from Shannon GA. The remaining seedlings are to be planted at the City Nursery on Black's Bluff Road.

### New Business:

Arbor Day will be held on Thursday, February 17th, at 1:00 pm behind Synovus Bank on West First Street. Parking is available in the bank parking lot. In addition to the Georgia Power saplings, the Georgia Forestry Commission will have saplings.

### Covington Park

Jake Hager, Executive Director of South Rome Alliance, gave a brief history of the site that is known as "Covington Park" he announced in honor of Arbor Day that we will host a "Beautification Project Day" at Covington Park located at the corner of East 12<sup>th</sup>

Street and Cave Spring Street on Friday, February 18th, from 9 am until noon. Starbucks will be on site to provide coffee and pastries to the volunteers. Tools and safety gear will be provided by Keep Rome-Floyd Beautiful. Volunteers will work to save the existing trees and clear the property.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Pam Roberts*

Pam Roberts, Secretary