

CNC May 2023 Minutes
Meeting over ZOOM

VP Bill Jonson called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Rebecca Mulder, manager City of Clearwater Code Compliance Division, Update on Code Enforcement

Mulder introduced Sarah Green, who also works in the code compliance division. Mulder said she started in 2021 but has been in her role since July 2022. Mulder said they are dealing with staffing issues like many city departments. Mulder said there are various ways to [connect with the department](#) with concerns including phone, online, email or in person. The complaints can not be anonymous unless it deals with a violation that poses an imminent threat to public health, safety or welfare or imminent destruction of habitat.

Mulder took questions.

Mary Ellen Lansburg asked how many cars can park on a lawn. Mulder said one vehicle can park on the grass adjacent to the driveway. Mulder said the grass must be maintained if cars are parked on it.

Cheryl Acton asked about how to get accepted to serve on the city's Code Enforcement Board. Mulder noted that the council appoints the members. She does not have any part in the selection process. Mulder suggested contacting the city clerk to find out more about the selection process.

Karen Cunningham asked about unfinished buildings. Mulder said the permitting process can take a considerable amount of time as well as the inspection process. There are a number of variables that can play a part in the timeline of development.

Richard DeSantis asked about compliance by various utilities who leave projects incomplete causing potential hazards. Mulder said that is outside the scope of the city's code compliance division.

David Lillasand asked if the city would accept using the name of a neighborhood association/HOA rather than an individual's name considering legal standing of corporations. Mulder said the city's stand is that a complaint has to include a person's name and address associated with the complaint.

Bob Whitmore, "Establishing a Tree Advocacy Group in Clearwater"

Whitmore, with the organization "City Tree." Whitmore said many developers remove trees before anything can be done to stop the removal. Whitmore said it's important to organize and

use that power to make sure trees aren't removed. Whitmore said it's important to understand the rules that guide tree removal.

Cheryl Acton said it's a challenge to balance tree canopy and development

Trisha Kirby said the city is not tree friendly and asked where would residents in Clearwater start, in terms of helping maintain and increase tree canopy. Whitmore said trees are needed especially in coastal areas and that allies are needed to help shape policy.

John Fuller, (Tree Inc./Mayberry Tree Consulting) asked about higher density but allowing more area around it for tree canopy. Whitmore said trees and buildings can live together.

David Lillesand asked how to identify which are invasives that should be removed and other "bad" trees. Whitmore said he does not believe in invasive trees and to work with the city to improve the tree canopy.

Samantha Moullet, Neighborhood Services Manager, Seeking Design suggestions for Neighborhood Celebration Day at Coachman Park

Moullet said she would like to get the different neighborhoods to participate in the opening of Coachman Park that displays the character of the parts of the city. Sherry Van Hootegem asked about having a car show with old cars. Kristin Langley suggested a dog parade. Participants agreed dog themed events would be popular. Participants also liked the idea of displaying banners to represent the different neighborhoods. Moullet then listed various upcoming events.

Secretary's Report:

Jonson made a motion for minutes to be approved as posted online. Motion passed by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report:

Rudy Michalek updated on membership and costs. Michalek said the treasurer report was not posted until late May 1. Michalek mentioned that meeting participants who might not be members can join.

Old Business

New Business

Jonson opened up the meeting to neighborhood associations to share any issues or concerns.

Nancy Diaz mentioned that enforcement of illegal parking has increased. Moullet said she can reach out to CPD to find out about enforcement.

Cheryl Acton asked about following up on the tree/green committee. Jonson said the city is working on the tree replacement program.

Sherry/Josh asked about an update on the Drew Street project.

Beth Davis made a motion to write a letter to appropriate leaders about the Drew Street project. Javante Scott seconded. Motion passes unanimously. A representative from the CNC will speak about the project delay at the May 4 city council meeting.

Jonson said the next meeting will be in person at the Fire Station and will feature Mayor Aungst.

Annette Pardue brought up the Peter Kageyama discussion from the radio.

Jonson ended the meeting at 8:42 p.m.