

HORTICULTURE COMMISSION MEETING

September 29, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The hearing was called to order by Mr. Bass at 9:35 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Mrs. Bellington.

Members present: Fred Bass, Todd Parker, Dr. Bobby Fletcher, Chad Danos, Stephen Hoover, Rob Barry, Aaron Wade, Rusty Ruckstuhl, Bill Fleming and Patsy Spedale.

Members absent: Paul Orr, Harold Tani and Roger Mayes.

A quorum was present.

Others present: Murphy Bell, Commission's Attorney; Michael Vallan, Hearing Officer; Craig Roussel, LDAF; Ansel Rankins, LDAF; Thelma Earls, LDAF; E. B. Thompson, LDAF; and Fran Bellington, LDAF.

Before the Commission called for public comments, Mr. Bass took a moment to thank all of the Commission members for their time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2011 hearing. This motion was seconded by Mr. Danos and passed unanimously.

SET NEXT HEARING DATE

The next Horticulture Commission meeting will be Thursday, December 15th, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium.

OLD BUSINESS

Craig Roussel gave an update on the changes to the retail florist exam regulations. The law was changed last year to do away with the requirement for the design portion of the retail florist exam and to only require a written exam. A Notice of Intent was published in the State Register and the department is now moving forward with the necessary changes to the regulations so that they will match what the law says.

REINSTATEMENT REQUESTS

Ms. Tammy Jenkins requested to have her Retail Florist license reinstated. **Motion:** Mr. Parker made a motion that she be reinstated. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Spedale and passed unanimously.

Ms. Darlene Catherine Jordan requested to have her Retail Florist license reinstated. **Motion:** Mr. Danos made a motion that she be reinstated. This motion was seconded by Mr. Parker and passed unanimously.

The meeting was turned over to the hearing officer at 9:45 a.m.

HEARING

New Cases

Don Meshell
d/b/a Arbor Tech Tree Service
132 Robert Alderman Rd.
Minden, LA 71055

Case No.: 11-012

Two violations of L.R.S. 3:3804 (C) for engaging in a regulated profession (arborist) without the proper license.

Mr. Meshell was not present but the department proceeded because service was effected. **Motion:** Mr. Parker made a motion to find Mr. Meshell in violation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fleming and passed unanimously. Recommended penalty of \$250.00 per violation for a total fine of \$500.00. **Motion:** Mr. Parker made a motion to accept the recommendation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fleming and passed unanimously.

Billy R. Floyd, Sr.
d/b/a B & C Tree Service
P O Box 361
Olla, LA 71465

Case No.: 11-013

Two violations of L.R.S. 3:3804 (C) for advertising and soliciting in a regulated profession (arborist) without the proper license.

Mr. Floyd was not present but the department proceeded because service was effected. **Motion:** Mr. Parker made a motion to find Mr. Floyd in violation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fleming and passed unanimously. Recommended penalty of \$500.00 per violation for a total fine of \$1,000.00. **Motion:** Mr. Danos made a motion to accept the recommendation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Parker and passed unanimously.

Troy Abadie
12216 Maplewood
Harvey, LA 70058

Case No.: 11-014

Three violations of L.R.S. 3:3804(C) for engaging in a regulated profession (arborist) without the proper license.

Mr. Abadie was not present but the department proceeded because service was effected.

Motion: Mr. Hoover made a motion to find Mr. Abadie in violation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ruckstuhl and passed unanimously. Recommended penalty of \$250.00 per violation for a total fine of \$750.00. **Motion:** Mr. Parker made a motion to accept the recommended penalty. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ruckstuhl and passed unanimously.

The meeting was turned back over to Mr. Bass at 10:20 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Parker made a motion to adjourn at 10:21 a.m. Before the motion was seconded, Mr. Bass took a moment to thank the department for their hard work. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Spedale and passed unanimously.