

Green Umbrella Meeting 11/29/07

Attending: Joelle Teachey, Mike Teachey, Anna Kate Hipp, Jennifer Rigby, Minor Shaw, Russell Stall, Paul Ellis, Ty Houck, Martha Pellett, Brad Wyche, Scott Schneider, Judy Cromwell, Pedrick Lowrey, Ed Marshall

The meeting began with discussion about the recent tree ordinance and county council meeting where the ordinance was voted down. Brad suggested that there is a good possibility that the tree ordinance may come up for discussion again in January. There is a huge concern about the extra cost of trees in work force housing from the opposition. Minor suggested there need to be ways to reduce costs without reducing tree sizes. As individual members of the Green Umbrella, we need to talk to council members and "rally the troops". If the ordinance comes up again in January, we will call a Green Umbrella meeting to discuss strategies. There was a suggestion that the Green Umbrella needs to send a letter complimenting council members who supported the ordinance.

Paul shared tree ordinances from other municipalities i.e. Pacolet, Fountain Inn. There seems to be little incentive in those ordinances to save historic trees.

Paul brought up several topics for discussion:

1. Verdae - is there a way we can work with Hollingsworth regarding the planting of legacy trees?

Minor will talk with Rick Sumerel at an upcoming meeting.

Paul will come up with a legacy tree list to be circulated.

2. Birds - there needs to be a component of the Green Umbrella concerning birds. Paul shared a recent article about "birds at risk" because of development and the loss of habitat.

Ed Marshall announced the grand opening of the Southern Living house will be June 14th. The symposium at Furman, tentatively scheduled for October, may feature speakers such as John Floyd, Trees Atlanta, Jim Urban city arborist.

Minor reported that we may want to include Hela Tsuzuki at our meetings. She is new to Greenville, has marketing skills and may be a help to our group.