

Holly Hills SBD Board Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2026

Meeting Opening

- Meeting began at 6:30 pm
- Board members attending: Mechelle Minden, Rachel Nast, Nick Hartzler and Brooks Goedeker. Absent: Brett Reinert and Jill Pace
- Minutes from the February meeting were approved unanimously. Motion made by Rachel Nast and seconded by Nick Hartzler.

Treasurer's Report

Nick Hartzler reporting:

- He is continuing to review investing in certificates of deposit with MOSIP. We are still earning 3.6% interest in our regular investment account, which had approximately \$1,100 in earnings in February.
- We received the last large property tax check from the City for roughly \$35,000. There is about \$18,000 still outstanding for the past three years.
- We have started paying a consolidated payment for multiple functions (mowing, raised bed maintenance, etc.) to Focal Pointe of \$3,156 per month, starting with January. This is a cost and time savings over multiple contracts for each service.
- We paid for the yearly USPS PO Box renewal of \$306.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Mechelle Minden

- Second motion to approve by Rachel Nast
- Motion passed unanimously

Beautification and Landscaping Committee

Angie Butz reporting:

- The five-year Tree Maintenance Plan will go up on the website once the finished product is received from Davey Resource Group.

- Residents interested in helping maintain our tree canopy via pruning small new trees during dormancy should contact the non-profit Neighborhood Foresters for training.
- The proposed mural at Morgan Ford and Bates at the Lady Layre building was revealed.
- The limestone fleur des lis pots approved a couple of months ago are in fabrication.
- Focal Pointe has started landscaping activities for the season.

Infrastructure Committee

Loren Lang reporting:

- The committee reviewed three bids received from design/engineering firms for designs and renderings (drawings) for the intersection of Holly Hills and Leona. Prices ranged from \$8k to the selected bid of \$2,950 from the Goetz Group. The committee will share submissions during a future public meeting.
 - Mechelle Minden made a motion to approve the selected bid for \$2,950. Seconded by Nick Hartler and unanimously approved.
- A subcommittee reviewed traffic flow and signage within Carondelet Park. The direction for traffic flow is correct but there is missing signage to clearly indicate navigation. Also, they are continuing to explore with the Parks Commissioner “pork chop” medians in the large open traffic areas to discourage reckless driving.
- The subcommittee also identified three areas for additional bike racks within the Park. Alderwoman Schweitzer is working with the City to finalize placement and installation.
- Speed hump and cross walk painting pricing was obtained: \$4-\$6 per square foot for regular paint, which is expected to last 1-2 years vs. \$20-\$24 per square foot for thermoplastic paint, which is expected to last 5-8 years. More research is needed but initial thoughts are to use thermoplastic paint in high traffic areas only.
- The committee is also looking into flashing signs for crosswalks into the park, like the one into the park from the YMCA/mulch piles. They are surprisingly pricey.
- Tree Maintenance Plan by Davey Resource Group:
 - Mechelle Minden shared that Year One of the plans for pruning the residential street trees was completed earlier this month. Davey Resource Group is assisting us with wrapping up the documentation for the \$25k Missouri Department of Conservation grant to offset costs.

- Mechelle made the motion to suspend the RFP (Request for Proposal) process under the bylaws to allow HHSBD to consider contracting with Davey for years 2+ without further competition based on:
 - Davey has worked with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) on projects with other neighborhoods. Davey wrote the justification for an MDC Neighborhood Forestry grant, for which the HHSBD was awarded the maximum \$25,000. They are also assisting us with compiling the documentation required to fulfill the grant requirements and are willing to continue to assist us in applying for the yearly grant cycle, which is already underway and deadline approaching.
 - Davey works closely with the City Forestry division on large scale projects and has streamlined processes for obtaining work orders/permits to work on City owned trees.
 - Davey conducted the 2025 tree inventory data (by laying eyes on each and every street tree) and created the HHSBD five-year plan for tree maintenance, based on that data. They can "hit the ground running" with additional pruning cycles for continuity of care.
- Nick Hartzler questioned the amount of high priority tree removals that are not addressed in the plan. Mechelle reiterated that the City retains jurisdiction of removals as they are usually the largest trees which makes for a complicated (and expensive) removal process. Residents should continue to report to the Citizens Service Bureau if concerned about a tree in front of their house.
- No other questions were raised. Rachel Nast seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Safety and Security Committee

SLMPD Captain Karnowski attended as the representative of the contracted HHSBD security company, The City's Finest. He provided a presentation and crime data for the past two months, which are also on hollyhillssbd.com. Some points of interest:

- Crime within the HHSBD is trending lower than the 5-year average, with February 2026 as the lowest month on record.
- A juvenile was apprehended breaking into a car and was released to his parents per procedure.

- A public comment on the “street takeovers” that happened recently on 314 Day (March 14th) prompted a conversation regarding security patrols on Easter and other notable days.

Public Comments

- Carondelet Park is a great place, especially compared to other City parks.

Adjournment at 7:50 pm