

**MINUTES**  
**UF Tree Assessment Debriefing Minutes**  
**September 22, 2016**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers**  
**6601 Main Street**  
**Miami Lakes, FL 33014**

**I. Call to Order:**

The meeting began at 3:10 PM.

The following individuals were present: Mayor Michael A. Pizzi; Dr. Jason Andrew Smith; Alex Rey, Town Manager; Tony Lopez, Chief of Operations; Daniel Angel, Business Operations Supervisor; Steve Poulson, Town Arborist/Field Inspector; Jose Orellana, Greenspace Maintenance Supervisor; Joe Rodriguez; Maria Barretto; Helen Roldan, Assistant to the Council/ Deputy Town Clerk; and Joseph Ascuntar, Assistant to the Mayor.

**II. Items Discussed:**

**A. Assessment of Trees**

Dr. Jason Smith made a presentation and answered questions posed by the Mayor, Town staff, and HOA members regarding the health of the trees in Miami Lakes, particularly in the Royal Oaks HOA vicinity. He stated there are no imminent problems, diseases, or pests affecting the tree canopy and less than 1% of our Town trees are dying which is well below the average mortality rate of trees in an urban setting.

**B. Recommendations**

Dr. Smith stated it is essential to choose proper trees for specific areas as some trees are weakened and stressed because they do not have ample room to grow. He believes it is a good practice to diversify tree species in the town. In doing so, if a disease affects one kind of tree, it will not damage other species. He also suggested utilizing the inventory of tree records in the Town to monitor tree health over time.

He also made suggestions to inform the community of the impact certain fertilizers have on trees so that they are avoided in homeowner swale areas.

**III. Adjournment**

There being no more items to discuss, the meeting ended at 4:23 pm.

Approved this 4th day of October 2016

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Michael A. Pizzi, Mayor

Attest:

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Gina M. Inganzo, Town Clerk