

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – September 14, 2017 at 7PM (141)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Jim Lemon, Ward Lutz, Doug Crabill, Colin Stein, and John Kussman.

Absent: Tingting Cai and Earl Cottrill.

Reading and Approval of Minutes (7/13/2017)

Colin Stein made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 7/13/2017 as prepared. John Kussman seconded the motion. All members in attendance voted (5-0) in favor of approving the minutes as prepared.

Old Business:

Possible Changes to Chapter 905 (Trees): At this point in time, the administrative regulation regarding street trees has been eliminated, and changes will be made to Chapter 905 (Trees). Staff will continue to work with the Shade Tree Commission, City Council, and the community to garner input for these revisions.

Tree Removal Update: Colin Stein provided updates on some recent street removals that had been completed by the Street Dept. He shared that poorly rated street trees at 304 South Main Street, 314 South Main Street, and 211 West Market Street were removed. In addition, due to storm damage, trees at 230 Lincoln Place and 343 Lincoln Place were also removed. All of these trees will need to have their stumps removed by contractors. Doug Crabill shared that he had reached out to tree removal contractors, and he was working to get quotations for tree and stump removal work to be completed before year end.

Maintenance and Trimming Projects: Jim Lemon reported that he removed all of the bamboo stakes at the Oakdale Cemetery that had been broken by the force of mowers hitting the base of the stakes. He also removed watersprouts and suckors from young trees on Scioto Street and at Oakdale Cemetery.

Bare Root Tree Planting Project (Spring 2017): Jim Lemon advised that he recently checked on all 40 bare root trees that were planted in the spring of 2017, and he stated that most of these plantings had done well. He mentioned that one of the newly planted Katsuratree at 513 South Main Street had not survived through the summer months. He reported that the earliest bare root plantings from a few years ago had shown excellent growth with many of the Elms from the first year's planting being of significant size.

Planning for 2018: No major plans were discussed at this meeting with the exception of working to finalize the 2018 bareroot tree order.

New Business:

Memorial Tree Program (Fall 2017 Planting): Doug Crabill reported that he had again received strong interest for the memorial tree program with many orders already received. He shared that the deadline for memorial tree program applications is September 15th.

Bare Root Tree Order (Spring 2018): Doug Crabill shared that he had checked availability with Carlton Plants, and he would be finalizing the order based on this availability.

Misc. Business: One of the board members suggested that Doug Crabill contact the dog park group to see if they planned to plant some additional trees this fall.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn, Colin Stein; Jim Lemon, second; all in favor.