

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – April 11, 2019 at 7:00PM (150)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Colin Stein, Earl Cottrill, Doug Crabill, Ward Lutz, and Jim Lemon.

Guest: Kerry Brugger

Reading and Approval of Minutes (10/11/2018)

Earl Cottrill made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 10/11/2018 as prepared. Colin Stein 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): Kerry Brugger attended the meeting to share that work had started on revisions to Chapter 905 (Trees). City staff had met twice already to review proposed changes and to better understand how the ordinance has worked since its original passage in 2002. Kerry Brugger shared the proposed changes and sought feedback from commission members. The goal is to have the revised ordinance to council by summer.

Tree & Stump Removal Update: Colin Stein reported that a city contractor had removed thirty-nine (39) stumps. In addition, Kerry Brugger reported that the contractor was being authorized to complete additional tree removals citywide in order to make significant progress toward completion of the poor tree removals.

Maintenance and Trimming Projects: Doug Crabill reported that additional trimming is still needed on East Water Street after the Crabapples have bloomed this spring. In addition, Jim Lemon reported that there may be some mortality to the bareroot trees due to the ice storms over the winter. He further mentioned that this damage may not become apparent until after all of the trees have leafed out for the growing season.

Memorial Tree Program Update: Doug Crabill reported that all of the markers for the plantings that were planted in the fall of 2018 had arrived from the engraver. He asked for help in installing these markers prior to Memorial Day.

Karen Kerns Dresser-Tree Planting Update: Doug Crabill reported that 10-11 trees were planted last fall, and members of the Kerns family attended a tree planting ceremony.

Oakdale Cemetery-Arboretum Update: The application has been started and is currently in draft form. The completed application for ArbNet accreditation will be submitted in 2019.

New Business:

Bare Root Tree Planting (Spring 2019): Jim Lemon reported that the city took delivery of all forty (40) trees that had been ordered. He further reported that thirty (30) trees will be planted as street trees, and ten (10) trees (Japanese Snowbell) will be planted along the front driveway at Oakdale Cemetery. Jim Lemon mentioned that forty-two (42) locations had been identified as planting sites along the street, and he shared that planting was scheduled to start the following week.

Arbor Day 2019: Doug Crabill will be attending the Tree City USA Awards in Bexley. In addition, Doug Crabill reported that he is working to coordinate a tree planting ceremony at the new PreK-8 school in observance of Arbor Day.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn, Colin Stein; Earl Cottrill, second; all in favor.