

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes-March 14, 2024 at 5:00PM (181)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Stephanie Truelove; Lynn Mintchell; Tracy Brock; Kerry Brugger; Jim Lemon; Doug Crabill; Bob Jumper

Absent: Doug George

Ryan Lantz joined us briefly for discussion of trimming before the meeting began.

Reading and Approval of Minutes (10/12/2023)

The minutes from the October 2023 meeting were reviewed. Stephanie Truelove motioned to accept the minutes, and Lynn Mintchell seconded this motion. October 2023 minutes were approved 6-0.

Old Business:

Chair and secretary positions were briefly discussed, along with change in role for Tracy and vacancies on the board. Also discussed was the time for the meeting. No changes from 5PM, second Thursday.

Memorial Tree Update: Doug will work with City Engineer on linking our Memorial Tree data with GPS coordinates. Jim will assist if available. This should be approximately 50 trees. Once the Memorial Tree list has been compiled, a work day should be planned with Stephanie and Lynn to assist on monitoring the Memorial Trees for markers, tree guards, and damage.

10 memorial trees were planted last fall. Bob said all the fall planted tree at Oakdale have been mulched. Most markers are set on top of the mulch.

Tracy shared that members of the Presbyterian church are looking for volunteer opportunities. Doug will follow up.

Fall Pruning: Only a limited amount of pruning/training was accomplished.

2023 Tree City USA Application Update: Doug submitted the paperwork for Tree City in December. Submission for a Growth Award was deferred until this year.

New Business:

Greenwood Arboretum Update/Arbor Day: Kerry shared the work to date and plans for rollout of the Arboretum on Arbor Day. Commission members are invited to Oakdale on Arbor Day, April 26, at 10AM to join the Kerns family members and Cemetery Board. Kerry showed an example of the tree markers that will be installed. He also shared the tree list, 43 species. Signage is being worked on. The final signage will be installed later in the year.

Spring Pruning: There is some pruning work that we should try to get done before the season gets too advanced. It was suggested that this could be another work day to introduce members to the process. Saturday morning might be the most convenient time.

Spring Bareroot Planning: 10 Silver Linden trees were ordered from Schichtel's Nursery. We are expecting delivery in late March- early April. We will need to work through a new process of receiving and handling bareroot stock.

Jim shared a list of Tree Commission activities (see below). This initiated discussion on our goals and requirements. Stephanie restated the need for some work days to understand what all is involved. We will try to address needs in the months after April.

We have two openings for Commission alternates. Commission members must be Urbana residents.

Meeting adjourned: Motion to adjourn made by Stephanie and seconded by Doug. All in favor.

Tree Commission Activities

Monthly meetings – chair, secretary

Recruit Commission members

Arbor Day, Tree City Application

City of Urbana web page

Tree promotion

Arboretum

- Inventory
- Signage
- Planning

Memorial Tree Program

- Routine review
 - Markers
 - Tree guards
 - Staking
- Tree order/planting/mulch

Streets

- Root sprout cleanup
- Collision/damage pruning
- Inventory

Bareroot

- Planting site ID
- Tree orders
- Planting
 - Mulch/Tree guards
- Watering