

## **City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – November 2012 (106)**

### **Roll Call and Introductions:**

Present: Doug Crabill, Ron McFarland, Colin Stein, Al Evans, and Earl Cottrill.

Absent: Tingting Cai and Elmo Layman

Guest: Kevin McFarland

### **Reading and Approval of Minutes (10/18/2012):**

Motion for approval of meeting minutes from 10/18/2012 made by Al Evans, seconded by Earl Cottrill. All voted in favor.

### **Old Business:**

Possible Changes to Chapter 905 (Trees): Doug Crabill again reiterated that the city is moving away from the use of the administrative regulation for tree removal. At this point in time, this administrative regulation will probably be 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. The goal is to get these changes made early in 2013.

2012 Tree Inventory (Street Trees and Cemetery): The tree inventories for both the streets and the cemetery are complete. Doug Crabill is in the process of compiling the data in Excel. Once the data is updated, the data will be used to determine tree/stump removal efforts in 2013. The budget for tree/stump removal efforts has been increased considerably for the next budget year.

Tree Campus USA: Tingting Cai was not present at the meeting to share the current status of Urbana University's efforts to become a Tree Campus USA. Doug Crabill shared that the tree care plan is complete. In addition, meetings have been held throughout 2013. In addition, the group has started to complete a campus wide inventory of trees. The focus on the inventory at this time has been on the central part of the campus.

Tree City USA 2013 Awards Program: Doug Crabill reported that planning for the Tree City USA Awards program to be held at Urbana University on April 18, 2013 is in process.

Fall Wrap-Up of Tree Projects: Doug Crabill reported that he will organize fall tree planting work/maintenance work in December if the weather permits.

Tree City USA Nomination Process: Deadline is December 7, 2012. Doug Crabill will be submitting the application information on behalf of the city.

### **New Business:**

Commission Appointments for 2013: All current members were asked about their interest in serving on the commission in 2013. All current members expressed an interest in continuing to serve.

Misc. Business: The group talked briefly about Tree Commission Academy, and Al Evans mentioned that he and Mayor Bean hope to continue the course through completion. Doug Crabill mentioned that the city's capital improvement fund for streets has a larger line item for trees in 2013. In addition, additional funds have been set aside in the capital improvement fund for Parks and Cemetery in 2013.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn by Al Evans, seconded by Ron McFarland, all in favor.