

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes-August 17, 2023 at 4:30PM (178)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Jim Lemon; Doug Crabill; Stephanie Truelove; Lynn Mintchell; Doug George; Tracy Brock; Kerry Brugger (Director of Administrator); and Bob Jumper, Oak Dale Supervisor (Public Works Representative)
Absent: Cindy Dunham

Old Business:

Oak Dale Cemetery Arboretum Update: Kerry Brugger provided an overview on progress with tree designation, signage, and plans for a kiosk. We now plan for a ceremony and ribbon-cutting event for October. Kerry and Jim will meet at Oak Dale to review.

2022 Tree City USA Application Update: With the establishment of the arboretum, we should be considered eligible for a Growth Award. Doug Crabill will research the Growth Award Application.

Memorial Tree Program Update: No change. Intended progress is validating trees, markers, GPS coordinates, web listing. We have not promoted Memorial Trees this summer and have no applications. We should revisit existing memorial tree to check on status of tree, markers, and locations.

We have gotten our memorial paver markers through Bryce Hill. They will no longer be providing this service. We will explore new contact with Roby Memorial for marker replacement.

We will plan on 5-10 trees for fall planting, purchased with donated funds. This will supplement tree diversity at Oak Dale and contribute to our species list for the arboretum. Bob says all the equipment will be available for new fall plantings. This is typically done after Thanksgiving. We have been getting fall trees from Brown & Sons.

Bob reported on dead trees at Oak Dale. Some of our new fall trees can go in these locations.

Tree pruning is needed on Scioto and other street tree locations. Damage pruning is also needed on Miami when the paving is complete.

No progress on Street Tree Inventory. Data needs validation by walking the streets. The last update was 2020.

Spring Bareroot Planning: We have information from two nurseries, Brotzman's and Schichtel's, that are servicing municipalities. The tree cost is higher than our previous arrangement, as is packaging and shipping. The Schichtel catalog and an excerpt of the Brotzman inventory were shared. We will need to work through a new process of receiving and handling bareroot stock.

Reading and Approval of Minutes (5/18/2023)

The minutes from the June 8, 2023 meeting were discussed. Stephanie Truelove motioned to accept the minutes with edits, and Doug George seconded this motion. Minutes were approved 7-0.

Meeting adjourned: Motion to adjourn made by Doug Crabill and seconded by Lynn Mintchell. All in favor 7-0.