

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes-October 12, 2023 at 4:30PM (180)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Jim Lemon; Doug Crabill; Stephanie Truelove; Lynn Mintchell

Absent: Cindy Dunham, Doug George, Tracy Brock

Reading and Approval of Minutes (8/17/2023)

The minutes from the September 2023 meeting were reviewed. Stephanie Truelove motioned to accept the minutes with edits, and Lynn Mintchell seconded this motion. September 2023 minutes were approved 4-0.

Stephanie was then excused from the meeting.

Old Business:

Memorial Tree Update: Two replacement markers have been ordered. We need to coordinate with Engineering on linking our Memorial Tree data with GPS coordinates.

We will plan on 10 Memorial Trees for fall planting, 3 from submitted applications, 7 purchased with donated funds (Kerns). This will supplement tree diversity at Oak Dale and contribute to our species list for the Arboretum. Doug Crabill has the new Brown & Sons catalog and will draft a tree selection for review. We would like to plan tree delivery for late Nov, early Dec.

Fall Pruning: As trees go dormant, it is a good time to prune. We will try to get some cleanup and shaping accomplished.

Urbana Web site/Tree Commission page: Recommended changes should now be in place.

Oak Dale Cemetery Arboretum: A discussed October roll-out of the Arboretum will be delayed. We now hope for completion of signage and kiosk in time for an Arbor Day event in the spring.

2022 Tree City USA Application Update: Doug Crabill provided information on Growth Award Application. The application is due Dec 1.

Street Tree Inventory: Jim completed the 2023 inventory this week and has updated the database. Without new street tree plantings, our inventory has dropped to 911 trees. This is down from 1,023 in 2020. The database has 1457 records – this includes trees that have been added (148 Bareroot) and that have been removed since 2015.

New Business:

Spring Bareroot Planning: We will pursue an order for spring planting from Schichtel's. We will need to work through a new process of receiving and handling bareroot stock.

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