

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – September 12, 2019 at 7:00PM (153)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Doug Crabill, Ward Lutz, Jim Lemon, John Kussman, and Colin Stein

Absent: Earl Cottrill

Reading and Approval of Minutes (7/18/2019)

No action was taken to approve the minutes from 7/18/2019 because these minutes had not yet been prepared.

Old Business:

Possible Changes to Chapter 905 (Trees): During this meeting, members of the commission reviewed a revised draft version of the tree ordinance. This draft incorporated changes discussed during the July meeting on this topic. Minor revisions were suggested, and Jim Lemon offered to research how to determine a replacement value for trees that may be damaged by acts prohibited by the tree ordinance. The commission approved the most recent draft of the revision of the tree ordinance with a few additional minor revisions and authorized the legislative process to begin for the tree ordinance update. Jim Lemon made this motion, and John Kussman seconded this motion. All in favor (5-0).

Tree & Stump Removal Update: Colin Stein reported that a city contractor had completed all of the planned tree removals. However, he advised that the contractor had additional stump removals to complete and chips from stump grinding to remove.

Maintenance and Trimming Projects: Doug Crabill reported that additional tree trimming work will be required for the recent bareroot tree plantings citywide as time permits. He reported that the Persian Parrotia on US 36 East are struggling.

Memorial Tree Program Update: Doug Crabill reported that the application deadline for this year's program is September 16th. He advised that he had prepared a press release for the Urbana Daily Citizen that had recently run in the newspaper, and reported that this article had generated interest in this year's program.

Oakdale Cemetery-Arboretum Update: Doug Crabill reported that his first focus was to get the tree ordinance revision completed before continuing work on the ArbNet application.

Bare Root Tree Planting (Spring 2019): Jim Lemon reported minor mortality overall with deer damage on the hill at Melvin Miller Park.

Arbor Day 2019: Doug Crabill reported that a tree planting ceremony will be held at the new PreK-8 school in observance of Arbor Day when school starts back up in the fall. He further

reported that Bill Borland is organizing a larger tree planting effort for the campus this fall, and the Arbor Day event will be paired with this larger planting project.

New Business:

-Karen Kerns Dresser Tree Funding-Fall 2019 Plantings: Doug Crabill reported that Kerry Brugger and Bob Jumper were working to determine tree planting locations for this fall.

Misc. Business: Jim Lemon reported that street tree inventory efforts would be held off until the spring of 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19PM. Motion to adjourn, Jim Lemon; John Kussman, second; all in favor (5-0).