

## **City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – September 2012 (104)**

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

Present: Elmo Layman, Doug Crabill, Tingting Cai, Ron McFarland, Colin Stein, Al Evans, and Earl Cottrill.

### **Reading and Approval of Minutes (7/12/2012) & (8/16/2012):**

Motion for approval of both sets of meeting minutes made by Al Evans, seconded by Colin Stein. All voted in favor.

### **Old Business:**

Possible Changes to Chapter 905 (Trees): Doug Crabill reported 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.

Tree Maintenance, including Watering: Watering is being actively conducted by Elmo Layman and Earl Cottrill with the use of the city's watering equipment. Recent rainfall is helping with the watering, but a few trees (5-6) may ultimately succumb to this summer's hot, dry weather. Colin Stein reported that a total of four dead street trees had recently been removed on North Main Street and East Court Street. Doug Crabill reported that the city is seeking estimates to remove a declining Sycamore tree on Lincoln Place. Also, Doug Crabill reported that a local tree service will remove the large oak tree at Oakdale Cemetery that was struck by lightning this spring.

2012 Tree Inventory (Street Trees and Cemetery): Elmo Layman reported that the tree inventories for both the streets and the cemetery are complete. The information has been given to Doug Crabill for compilation in Excel.

Tree Campus USA: Tingting Cai reported that Urbana University is making progress towards its eligibility to be considered a Tree Campus USA. She reported that tree care plan is complete, and meetings are being held. She also reported that the budget requirement will be met. Tingting Cai stated that inventory efforts would be starting soon.

Tree City USA 2013 Awards Program: The group discussed details in regards to the Tree City USA Awards program to be held at Urbana University on April 18, 2013. Doug Crabill will set up a separate meeting to plan details of the event.

**New Business:**

Fall Wrap-Up of Tree Projects: Doug Crabill reported that he will be working to finalize fall tree planting/maintenance work.

Misc. Business: Doug Crabill reported that the Fall Urban Forestry Conference is coming up in October. He has the registration materials. Please contact him if interested.

Meeting adjourned.