

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – May 2013 (109)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Doug Crabill, Ron McFarland, Earl Cottrill, Elmo Layman, and Tingting Cai

Absent: Colin Stein, Al Evans

Reading and Approval of Minutes (4/11/2013):

Motion for approval of meeting minutes from 4/11/2013 made by Earl Cottrill, seconded by Ron McFarland. 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 2012 street tree inventory is being compiled into the Excel database. Doug Crabill stated 10 of the 15 pages were complete, and that the balance of the pages should be updated within a week. Once updated, a new version would be provided to Elmo Layman, and the 2013 street tree inventory would begin. Tingting Cai, Earl Cottrill, and Ron McFarland offered to assist in the inventory efforts. Once the street tree inventory is complete, the same process will follow for the cemetery inventory.

Tree City USA 2013 Awards Program: Doug Crabill reported that the Tree City USA Awards program was held at Urbana University on April 18, 2013. Furthermore, Doug Crabill reported that 109 attendees were present from throughout Central Ohio. In addition, the weather was beautiful, and many attendees had positive comments about Urbana and Urbana University.

Arbor Day Planning-April 2013: Doug Crabill reported that Mayor Bean proclaimed Friday, April 26, 2013 as Arbor Day in the city. Furthermore, he stated that a tree planting ceremony was held on the Urbana University campus on April 18, 2013 during the Tree City USA awards program being held there. Mayor Bean was present at this tree planting ceremony. In addition, Elmo Layman reported that tree plantings and Arbor Day observances were held for South Elementary, North Elementary, and East Elementary as follows: South Elementary on Friday, April 26, 2013 at 8:25AM; North Elementary on Friday, April 26, 2013 at 2:20PM; East Elementary on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 2:20PM. Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Evans attended the tree planting at North Elementary, and Councilman Evans and Councilman Lokai attended the tree planting at East Elementary.

Spring Projects (Planning): Doug Crabill will be coordinating spring maintenance and planting projects. He stated there are 8 or 9 trees at the Street Department that need to be planted. He will coordinate plans to get them planted. Also, he mentioned that watering will be necessary throughout the spring and summer. Additional tree planting is planned for the fall. Doug Crabill reported that he is in the process of coordinating several tree removals.

New Business:

Misc. Business: The group discussed the possibility of setting up an appointment with Terry Lavy to develop a plan to remove invasive plants at Melvin Miller Park.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn by Ron McFarland, seconded by Elmo Layman, all in favor.