

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – July 2013 (110)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Doug Crabill, Elmo Layman, Earl Cottrill, and Al Evans

Absent: Tingting Cai, Ron McFarland, and Colin Stein

Reading and Approval of Minutes (5/16/2013):

Motion for approval of meeting minutes from 5/16/2013 made by Elmo Layman, seconded by Earl Cottrill. All voted in favor.

Old Business:

Possible Changes to Chapter 905 (Trees): Doug Crabill again reiterated that the city has moved away from the use of the administrative regulation for tree removal. At this point in time, this administrative regulation will 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 in 2013.

New Business

2013 Tree Inventory (Street Trees and Cemetery): The 2013 street tree and cemetery inventories are being compiled into the Excel database. Over the last few months, Elmo Layman and other commission members have worked diligently to update the 2012 inventory information. Doug Crabill stated the 2013 inventories should be published on the city website soon after some additional updates are made. These updates include: recent storm damage and corrections/additions to the newer trees on Park Avenue, Scioto Street, and East Water Street.

Tree Removal Plans: Doug Crabill stated that the 2013 inventory data will be used to prioritize removal needs. Furthermore, Doug Crabill reported that a few removal projects will soon be underway. These removal projects include the following: dead ash trees in an alleyway/right of way between Scioto and Court, the large Sycamore tree on Lincoln Place, and four dead trees at Oakdale Cemetery.

Tree Maintenance Update: Elmo Layman reported that the water pump is not currently working, but the mechanic at the city garage is working to repair it. In the interim, a gravity feed is being installed on the water tank. Doug Crabill mentioned that some trimming work should be undertaken soon. Furthermore, Doug Crabill mentioned that some tree mulching is necessary on Park Avenue in the Boulevard, in Melvin Miller Park, and at Oakdale Cemetery.

Fall Tree Planting Program: Doug Crabill reported that a fall tree planting program is planned. The goal is to plant at least 30 trees. There has already been some interest in the program.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn by Earl Cottrill, seconded by Al Evans, all in favor.