

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – August 2013 (111)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Doug Crabill, Elmo Layman, Tingting Cai, Colin Stein, and Al Evans

Absent: Ron McFarland and Earl Cottrill

Guest: Terry Lavy

Reading and Approval of Minutes (7/11/2013):

No minutes were available to approve. Doug Crabill will have minutes to approve at the next meeting.

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.

2013 Tree Inventory (Street Trees and Cemetery): Doug Crabill reported that the 2013 street tree and cemetery inventories have been compiled into the Excel database, and these inventories are now available on the city website. Many updates were made to reflect recent storm damage and corrections/additions to the newer trees on Park Avenue, Scioto Street, and East Water Street. This information is now being used to prioritize tree removal plans.

Tree Removal Plans: Doug Crabill stated that the 2013 inventory data is being 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 watering, trimming, and mulching efforts have been underway.

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.

New Business

Invasive Plant Removal Project-Melvin Miller Park: Terry Lavy and Elmo Layman met prior to the meeting at Melvin Miller Park to discuss the invasive plants in the woods and up on the hill. Terry Lavy owns a business that specializes in invasive removal, and he shared how he could attack and kill the invasive plants in this area. Doug Crabill agreed to work with him on acreage

and scope to develop a cost proposal to be considered for funding. This area is largely infested with brush honeysuckle, but there are other species present.

Misc: Elmo Layman reported on recent efforts nationally to restore Hazelnut and Chestnut populations.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn by Colin Stein, seconded by Elmo Layman, all in favor.