

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – July 17, 2014 at 7PM (118)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Colin Stein, Jim Lemon, Doug Crabill, and Al Evans.

Absent: Tingting Cai, Earl Cottrill, and Ron McFarland

Guest: Elmo Layman

Reading and Approval of Minutes (6/12/2014):

Colin Stein made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 6/12/2014 as presented. Jim Lemon seconded the motion. All members in attendance voted in favor of approving the minutes as presented.

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 2014.

Tree Removal Update: Doug Crabill stated that the 2013 and 2014 inventory data is being used to prioritize removal needs based on what trees the city can safely remove and which trees will require a contractor. Some removal work has already been contracted and completed this year, and more is planned. In addition, the Urbana Street Department has been removing some of the trees that they can safely handle.

Spring/Summer Project/Maintenance Planning: Jim Lemon reported that pruning, trimming, staking, and watering work is underway with attention being paid to Scioto Street, East Water Street, and North Main Street. In addition, limbs that overhang the sidewalk are being addressed.

New Business:

Bare Root Tree Planting (Spring 2015): Jim Lemon reported that Doug Crabill, Jim Lemon, and Elmo Layman recently met with Adam McClanahan from Carlton Plants about using Carlton as a source for bare root trees. Carlton Plants is the same supplier that Washington Court House uses. Adam McClanahan provided catalogs and other sales literature. Jim Lemon offered to review the possibilities for planting. London Planetree was mentioned as a consideration.

Invasive Plant Removal Project (Recap)-Melvin Miller Park: Doug Crabill reported that Terry Lavy of the Conservationist completed the first of two phases of honeysuckle removal last fall through foliar spray at Melvin Miller Park. The second phase will be completed in the fall of

2014. In addition, there is also a section of honeysuckle between the bike path and the houses on Old Farm Road that will need to be removed. Doug Crabill reported that the city would like to communicate with these residents prior to the removal, but he further reported that this honeysuckle will ultimately need to be removed. Doug Crabill reported that the treatment was effective, and Doug Crabill offered to follow up with Terry Lavy about the work for this fall.

Fall Tree Planting Program: Doug Crabill discussed the possibility of having a fall tree planting program that would utilize balled and burlapped plant material until the bare root planting program in the spring gets up and running. This program would be similar to the program used during the fall in previous years.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn at 7:30PM, Colin Stein; Jim Lemon, second; all in favor.