

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – September 10, 2015 at 7PM (128)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Ron McFarland, John Kussman, Colin Stein, Tingting Cai, Jim Lemon, and Doug Crabill

Absent: Earl Cottrill

Reading and Approval of Minutes (8/13/2015)

Doug Crabill stated that the minutes from 8/13/2015 will be made available for approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Old Business:

Possible Changes to Chapter 905 (Trees): At this point in time, the administrative regulation regarding street trees has been 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 2015.

Tree Removal Update: Colin Stein reported that seven trees and several stumps are planned for removal by a contractor in late September. Furthermore, Colin Stein reported that the Parks and Recreation staff have removed a total of 27 ash trees at Melvin Miller Park.

Bare Root Tree Planting Project Update: Jim Lemon reported that all 30 bare root trees were doing well. He stated that some of the Elms are showing signs of infestation by fall webworm.

Honeysuckle Eradication-Melvin Miller Park: Doug Crabill stated that Terry Lavy intends to respray any missed/resprout locations at no charge later this fall.

Bare Root Tree Planting Project Planning-2016: Jim Lemon reported that he had focused on the major thoroughfares and used the database information and Google Maps to determine the estimated quantities of trees required to fill gaps along Miami Street (51), Scioto Street (26), South Main Street (19), and North Main Street (24) with a tree approximately every 80 feet. Doug Crabill agreed to check with the salesman with Carlton Plants to determine availability. Furthermore, Doug Crabill agreed to advocate for the budgeting of the necessary funding for this tree planting initiative next spring.

Phase 1 Water Main Replacement Project-Tree Planting Planning: Doug Crabill reported that 45 trees were removed, and a total of 25 trees will be replanted. Jim Lemon is assisting with locations/species selection. Tree planting is scheduled for later this fall.

Memorial Tree Planting (Update): Doug Crabill reported that four orders had been received already, and he stated that the program had received great publicity recently in the *Urbana Daily*

Citizen and the *Springfield News Sun*. Funeral directors were mentioned as a possible source of publicity.

Misc. Business: Colin Stein mentioned several locations on or near West Reynolds Street where some of the younger trees are a challenge for snow plowing to the curb. Doug Crabill agreed to develop a courtesy letter to the property owners to ask that they cut back these trees. Jim Lemon reported information from his recent Tree Commission Academy session, and he stated that Bellefontaine is hosting a training session on October 17th with all invited to attend. In addition, Jim Lemon mentioned that Lisa Bowers from ODNR will be visiting to check on a few of the champion trees at Oakdale Cemetery. Apparently, the Post Oak at Oakdale Cemetery is no longer the state champion.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn, Colin Stein; Ron McFarland, second; all in favor.