

## **City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – June 14, 2018 at 7:00PM (146)**

### **Roll Call and Introductions:**

Present: John Kussman, Earl Cottrill, Jim Lemon, Ward Lutz, and Doug Crabill

Absent: Tingting Cai and Colin Stein

Guest: Kerry Brugger, Director of Administration

### **Reading and Approval of Minutes (4/12/2018 & 5/10/2018)**

Wade Lutz made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from both 4/12/2018 and 5/10/2018 as prepared. Earl Cottrill seconded the motion. All members in attendance voted (5-0) in favor of approving both sets of minutes as prepared.

### **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). In 2018, the commission plans to finalize and send changes to this ordinance to Urbana City Council for their review and approval. Kerry Brugger mentioned that he would like for the tree ordinance update process to be completed before the end of 2018.

Tree & Stump Removal Update: Doug Crabill reported that a list of 10-12 poor trees had been given to the Street Dept. for completion by city forces. Colin Stein reported that the Street Dept. had reviewed these tree removal locations, and they can complete the removal of all of these trees with the exception of two trees in the 400 block of North Main Street. The balance of the trees will require contracting with tree and stump removal contractors to complete the remaining work.

Maintenance and Trimming Projects: Jim Lemon reported that additional trimming and cleanup is required this summer, including water sprouts, low hanging branches on young trees, etc. As summer progresses, the commission agreed to schedule work days to complete these tasks are required.

Memorial Tree Program (Fall 2017 Planting): Doug Crabill reported that the markers for the Memorial Trees were placed prior to the Memorial Day holiday. In addition, Jim Lemon reported that all of the memorial trees were mulched prior to the holiday. John Kussman asked for updated information on the trees and their donors so that program records could be updated. In addition, John Kussman expressed his desire to see the city purchase some type of tree sling or cart to make the movement and placement of trees for future plantings easier to maneuver with the overall goal of improving the placement of the trees in the planting holes.

Bare Root Tree Planting Project (Spring 2018): Doug Crabill reported that the bareroot tree installation of 50 trees had been completed. Jim Lemon reported that all of the bareroot trees had

leafed out. He mentioned that the Silverbell (2018 planting) and Purple Robe Locust (2017 planting) had excellent, attractive spring blooms.

Oakdale Cemetery-Arboretum: Kerry Brugger stated that work continues for Oakdale Cemetery to become an accredited Level 1 arboretum through Arbnet. Lastly, he again mentioned the date of October 11, 2018 as the date for the fall Arbor Day planting and formal arboretum launch at Oakdale Cemetery.

**New Business:**

Misc. Business: Jim Lemon reported that the street tree inventory would need to be started soon, and he requested the assistance of fellow commission members in this effort.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn, Earl Cottrill; John Kussman, second; all in favor.