

TREE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Date and Time: April 9, 2015, 6:30 PM
Location: One Renaissance Center-345 High Street
First Floor-City Council Chambers

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Doris Bergen, Armand Bloch, Carol Christian, Ann Coombs, Buck Huber, Carrie Pate

Members Absent: Dan Gladish, Alfred Hall, Chelsea Obrebski

Other Attendees: Mark Murray, Andy Weltzer, Joel Fink

II. Board Minutes

The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

Moved: Armond Bloch

Seconded: Ann Coombs

Motion passed.

III. Update from Mark Murray

Mark reported that the meeting with the Fairfield Environmental Commission is scheduled for May 14. Mark will ask them about their wishes for a meeting agenda.

The minutes of the the Tree Board meetings during 2014 have been posted on the website.

The next Tree Academy is scheduled for September 21 and 22.

The fees have been paid for the Tree City USA luncheon that will be held in the City of Wyoming. All the photos were submitted.

The meeting to discuss the Management Plan with city staff will be held at 10:00 on Friday, April 10. Doris, Ann, Carrie, and Armand will represent the Tree Board.

IV. Report on Tree Academy

Ann reported that she and Buck attended. It was a constructive event and again was well attended. Participants learned about a method to test soil for suitability for planting trees. This method involves the determining of many different variables. For "homework," Ann and Buck will identify eight (8) blocks in the city and will test the soil of one house in each block.

V. Arbor Day Plans

The Tree Board will purchase and Andy will plant a tree at Brookwood Elementary for Arbor Day. The event will take place at 2:00 PM on the 24th of April. The Arbor Day Proclamation will be read at the city council meeting on April 22nd.

In addition, in celebration of Arbor Day, trees will be planted in the vacant lot area on North Third Street.

VI. Tree Lab Trees

Additional trees will be planted at Linden, Brookwood, and Ridgeway Elementary Schools. Carol has donated funds for these plantings from the award she received as Hamilton Teacher of the Year. The Board congratulated Carol on this achievement.

VII. Tree Nursery

Jack has supplied the board with an updated inventory of trees that are planted at the nursery.

The Tree Board authorized the expenditure of \$640.15 for additional nursery trees.

Moved: Carol Christian

Seconded: Buck Huber

Motion passed.

VIII.. Crawford House Grounds

Joel summarized a meeting about Crawford Woods maintenance responsibilities that he held with Steve Timmer of the Parks Conservancy. The Conservancy will assume responsibility for the care of the rain garden and for emptying the trash at that location. Steve has requested that the Tree Board continue to design, implement, and care for the arboretum located there. The rain barrel will not be reinstalled on the grounds until the area around the house is improved.

IX. Public Education

A flyer relating to tree care will be distributed to city residents in a future utility bill. The design that was distributed and reviewed by board members was approved.

Moved: Armand Bloch

Seconded: Carol Christian

Motion passed.

X. Other Business

Mark said that he will notify the board about the members whose terms are expiring.

Armand is no longer a member of the Planning Commission, but he intends to be in contact with the commission on matters relating to trees and report about those to the Tree Board.

Andy asked whether his suggestions concerning trees near the Fitton Center were submitted. Mark said that they were given to Rick Jones.

Andy said that he will try to dig out the buckeye tree that is growing in the middle of the tree nursery. If he is successful, it will be transplanted in Greenwood Cemetery.

Andy suggested that a tree species might be identified as a Hamilton symbol.

Alfred has asked Doris to announce that pictures and articles are needed to keep the Tree Board's Facebook page fresh so that it will continue to get viewers.

Doris asked Mark to determine if the Tree Board meetings could be announced in the Journal-News.

Board members were reminded of the importance of documenting volunteer time and sending this information to Mark so that the Tree City application can include the dollar value of this time.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Armand Bloch

Seconded: Carrie Pate

Motion passed.

The next meeting of the Hamilton Tree Advisory Board will be **on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 6:30 PM. This meeting will be with the Fairfield Environmental Commission.**