City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – September 11, 2014 at 7PM (120)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Colin Stein, Ron McFarland, Jim Lemon, Earl Cottrill, Doug Crabill

Absent: Al Evans and Tingting Cai

Guest: Elmo Layman

Reading and Approval of Minutes (7/17/2014, 8/14/2014):

The minutes from the 7/17/2014 & 8/14/2014 meetings were presented for review and approval. Ron McFarland made a motion to accept the minutes from both meetings as presented. Earl Cottrill seconded the motion. All members in attendance voted in favor of approving the minutes from both meetings 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. Doug Crabill stated that the removal of maple trees at 438 Scioto Street and 1108 Miami Street had been contracted out, and the removal work would be scheduled soon.

Spring/Summer Project/Maintenance Planning: Jim Lemon and Elmo Layman reported that watering work is ongoing as needed.

Bare Root Tree Planting Project (Spring 2015): Doug Crabill will follow up with Adam McClanahan of Carlton Plants about the possible order for Spring 2015. Doug Crabill stated that he had not heard back from Adam recently. The commission decided that the selections would include Swamp White Oak, Dawn Redwood, and London Planetree.

Invasive Plant Removal Project Update-Melvin Miller Park (Fall 2014): Doug Crabill reported that the city had contracted with Terry Lavy of the Conservationist for the second phase of honeysuckle removal at Melvin Miller Park. This work will be scheduled for fall, and Doug Crabill stated that he would send a letter to property owners along Old Farm Road who abut the honeysuckle growth.

Fall Tree Planting Program: Doug Crabill stated that he would get notice out about the program ASAP. Brown and Sons Nursery was mentioned as a probable supplier.

New Business:

Misc. Business: Elmo Layman mentioned that a delivery of Hazelnuts would be due in December, and they would need to be planted in a protected location.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn at 7:40PM, Colin Stein; Jim Lemon, second; all in favor.