

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – November 10, 2016 at 7PM (136)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Jim Lemon, John Kussman, Earl Cottrill, Doug Crabill, and Colin Stein

Absent: Ron McFarland and Tingting Cai

Reading and Approval of Minutes (10/13/2016)

Colin Stein made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 10/13/2016 as prepared. Jim Lemon seconded the motion. All members in attendance voted (5-0) in favor of approving the 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). Staff will continue to work with the Shade Tree Commission, City Council, and the community to garner input for these revisions.

Tree Removal Update: Doug Crabill reported that the Street Dept. had recently removed two maples from the tree lawn in front of 825 North Main Street due to a sewer and/or water line conflict at this location. The stumps remain for removal by a city contractor at a future date.

2016 Oakdale Cemetery Inventory Update: Jim Lemon reported that the volunteer resources were not available in 2016 to assist in this inventory effort at Oakdale Cemetery.

Maintenance and Trimming Projects: Doug Crabill reported that he and Jim Lemon recently trimmed all of the young trees in the commercial areas of Scioto Street and East Water Street. Furthermore, he reported that additional pruning may need to be accomplished during the winter months.

Memorial Trees-Mr. Elmo Layman: Doug Crabill reported that sufficient funds had been collected from donors to plant two replacement trees at Oakdale Cemetery in memory of Mr. Elmo Layman. He stated that he had spoken to Mrs. Wilma Layman, and she requested an Oak tree. Furthermore, Doug Crabill had convinced her that the second tree should be an Amur Cork Tree since this particular tree was one of Elmo's favorites at Oakdale Cemetery.

Bare Root Tree Planting Project (Spring 2017): Doug Crabill reported on the availability of the tree species that were selected by Jim Lemon for next year's program. A total of forty (40) trees were ordered for next spring, and Doug Crabill reported that these trees are scheduled for an early spring delivery. Jim Lemon mentioned that letters to property owners where planting may occur should be sent out sooner than later.

Memorial Tree Program (Fall 2016 Planting): Doug Crabill reported that thirteen (13) trees were purchased as memorial trees for fall 2016 planting. In addition, he reported that the dog park group had purchased two trees for Fido's Field (the dog park at Melvin Miller Park). Doug Crabill reported that the order had been placed with planting anticipated around Thanksgiving.

New Business:

2016 Tree City USA Application: Doug Crabill reported that the Tree City USA application is due to the National Arbor Day Foundation on December 2nd. Furthermore, he advised that the application would be submitted on time and that all requirements would be met.

Misc. Business: John Kussman reported that some of last year's memorial trees are becoming covered by dirt and mulch. He suggested that some of these markers be raised.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn, Jim Lemon; Earl Cottrill, second; all in favor.