

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes (194)

Urbana Shade Tree Commission

Thursday, October 9, 2025

The Deck at Melvin Miller Park

Roll Call: Doug Crabill, Stephanie Truelove, Lynn Mintchell, Doug George, Donna Finkbine, and Bob Jumper, Cemetery Supervisor.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the September 11, 2025 meeting were reviewed and a motion by Stephanie Truelove was made for approval with a second by Doug George. The September minutes were approved by the group.

Old Business:

*Memorial Tree Program Update/Inventory:* Both Oakdale Cemetery and Melvin Miller Park locations have been inventoried and written records are complete. Twenty-two (22) trees needing GPS identification will be added. Engraved Memorial markers will be installed. Updating of Memorial Tree information is also underway.

*Strategic Planning Recap/Next Steps:* Long term goals will be discussed at a future meeting.

*Bare root Tree Planting (Spring 2025):* Bob Jumper spoke to the challenges of the summer drought concerning the spring plantings. Watering and trimming are being addressed. Some unfortunate losses two (2) did occur.

*Commission Vacancies:* The search is ongoing to fill vacancies. The group discussed ideas to create interest and participation.

*Master Gardener Partnership with Greenwood Arboretum:* On September 21, 2025 the Champaign County Master Gardener Volunteers hosted a “SCAVENGER HUNT” at the Greenwood Arboretum. Stephanie, Lynn and Donna attended the event. Tree identification, leaves, pods, and cones were addressed as we learned about some fall traits of our arboretum trees.

*Fall 2025 Tree Planting (Memorial & Kerns):* Two (2) Memorial trees are scheduled to be planted, one (1) replacement and one (1) new.

*Tree Guard Installment:* Some tree guards have been removed and some will remain as necessary.

New Business:

*Commission Reappointments (2026):* Reappointments will be addressed at the November meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: Stephanie Truelove motioned to adjourn the meeting with a second by Doug George. The meeting at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Finkbine, Secretary

