

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes – July 9, 2020 at 5:00PM (157)

Roll Call and Introductions:

Present: Doug Crabill, Ward Lutz, Jim Lemon, and Colin Stein

In addition, Doug Crabill introduced the new Shade Tree Commission members who were present at the meeting: Charles Moody and Doug George.

Reading and Approval of Minutes (6/11/2020)

Ward Lutz made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 6/11/2020 as prepared. Jim Lemon seconded the motion. All members in attendance voted (6-0) in favor of approving the minutes as prepared.

Old Business:

Maintenance and Trimming Projects: Doug Crabill reported that additional maintenance and trimming work needs to be completed, including many of the recent bareroot plantings. In addition, he mentioned that young tree pruning/trimming is also needed at Oak Dale Cemetery.

Memorial Tree Program Update: Doug Crabill reported that all of the tree markers for the Memorial Tree Program that were planted in the fall of 2019 have been installed. Ward Lutz and Jim Lemon completed these installations. Doug Crabill reported that the listing of Memorial Trees is due to be updated.

Oakdale Cemetery-Arboretum Update: Doug Crabill reported that the goal in 2020 is to submit an accreditation application to ArbNet (Morton Arboretum) for certification of Oak Dale Cemetery as a Level 1 arboretum. Kerry Brugger has already prepared a draft application. A minimum of twenty-five species are required to qualify as a Level 1 Arboretum. Over time, part of this effort will include an updated inventory of trees at Oak Dale Cemetery, including GPS coordinates for each tree.

-Karen Kerns Dresser Donation: Doug Crabill reported that an additional ten (10) trees were planted last fall at Oakdale Cemetery from this donation. Based on recent discussions with Karen's family and the commission's discussion at the June meeting, Doug Crabill shared a conceptual name for the arboretum at Oak Dale Cemetery in honor of Karen. The conceptual name is Greenwood Arboretum at Oak Dale Cemetery in Memory of Karen Kerns Dresser.

-2020 Street Tree Inventory: Jim Lemon reported that he had completed the street tree inventory update, including the measurement of each tree since the trees have not been measured since 2015. He thanked his wife, Sue, for her assistance in completing the inventory. Also, he reported approximately 1,019 trees are active in the database and within the treelawn. In addition, he

mentioned that only 5-6 trees had been downgraded in condition from the last tree inventory update.

-Policies and Procedures: Doug Crabill explained that the Shade Tree Commission will need to develop policies and procedures that will address items not specifically addressed by the tree ordinance. Wooster, OH has a great example of policies and procedures. Potential policies include removal and owner planted trees.

-Tree Program Funding: Doug Crabill explained that funding options would continue to be explored in the future, including a potential rewrite of the compost ordinance to include some type of fee for street trees.

New Business:

-Watering/Mulching: Doug Crabill mentioned that mulching needed to be completed before the warmest summer weather set in. In addition, he mentioned that watering may be required during the summer months.

Misc. Business: None.

Meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn, Jim Lemon; Charles Moody, second; all in favor (6-0).