

City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Meeting (196)

Urbana Shade Tree Commission

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 5:00 PM

The Deck at Melvin Miller Park

Roll Call: Present: Doug Crabill, Stephanie Truelove, Donna Finkbine, Lynn Mintchell, and Doug George.

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the February 12, 2026 meeting were reviewed and a motion to approve was made by Stephanie Truelove with a second by Lynn Mintchell. The February minutes were approved as prepared.

Memorial Tree Program Update/Inventory:

Oakdale Cemetery (In Process)

Melvin Miller Park (In Process)

Doug shared the mapping and GIS printed information prepared by Alyssa Tompkins, Engineering Administrative Assistant. With the process nearly complete, 83 Memorial Trees have been planted with 36 of these trees at Melvin Miller Park and 47 trees of these trees planted at Oakdale Cemetery.

Strategic Planning Recap/Next Steps:

Future planning information to come at a later date.

Commission Vacancies:

Reappointments for the 2026 Tree Commission members were approved for Stephanie Truelove, Lynn Mintchell and Doug George.

Greenwood Arboretum Programming (2026):

Doug will follow up to assure Greenwood Arboretum reaccreditation is current.

Tree Guard Reinstallation/Winter Pruning:

Continued maintenance tasks involving grooming/mulching the most recently planted trees (5) will be addressed and tree guards will be added as necessary.

Arbor Day 2026 Planning w/ Champaign County Master Gardeners:

Arbor Day 2026 celebration will be recognized on Friday April 24 at Oak Dale Cemetery at 9:00-11:00 AM. The Champaign County Master Gardeners will provide an outdoor experience, *Pines and Spruce Tree Education* involving Urbana City School 5th Graders. In addition to the student program, the Shade Tree Commission will provide an Arbor Day Proclamation and will have a tree planting.

SAVE THE DATE:

Springfield will be hosting this year's Region 1 Tree City USA Awards/ Tree Campus Awards on May 6, 2026. Commission members will be discussing reservations for the event at the April meeting.

Stephanie Truelove motioned to adjourn the meeting with a second by Lynn Mintchell. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM. The next Shade Tree Commission meeting will be April 9, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Finkbine, Secretary