

**KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 7, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Dan Steinhoff at 8:35 am. Other board members present were Bob Graves, Charles Kwit, Gordon Coker, Dan Steinhoff, Jessie Hillman, Kelsey Jones, and Natalia Almonacid.

Ex-Officio members present were Kasey Krouse, Lee Rumble, David McGinley, and Tim Hester.

Action Items for July

- Motion to approve May minutes made by Bob Graves and seconded by Charles Kwit. The motion passed.
- Motion to approve June minutes made by Bob Graves and seconded by Charles Kwit. The motion passed.

City Update with Kasey Krouse

- There have been some questions about the species list online in regards to what a shade tree is from some local neighborhoods.
- Dan Steinhoff has finalized a letter to TVA in regards to the oak trees along Summit Dr.
 - Conversation around this has reached the Mayor's Office and there has been a good amount of community support to keep these trees and aid in cleaning up.
 - These trees are unlikely to fall on the building as they've been maintained with proper pruning.
 - These trees are also likely 50 years or older.
- The City's bid for a nursery has closed and they are finalizing the agreement.
 - Walker nursery will likely be the chosen vendor.
- There will be a public meeting about Washington Pike on June 15th.
 - There is a large landscaping component for this project.
- Several streetscape projects were funded at the last council meeting with several projects in South Knox and along Cumberland Ave.

Trees Knoxville Update with Kasey Krouse

- Trees Knoxville has applied for several grants including the TAPE and the Challenge grant.

Arbor Day with Kasey Krouse

- Kasey Krouse and Jessica Rodocker are looking at Sam Duff park as a location for Arbor Day.

- They are also aiming for November 4th as the date for the event.
- The South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association is interested in partnering with the Tree Board for Arbor day.
- Parks and Rec wants to be involved due to the smaller size of the park and want to have a voice in how many trees and where those trees are going to be planted for Arbor Day.
- Kasey mentioned how it's typically been harder to arrange Arbor Day at the local schools so rotating City parks and inviting students from the local school to participate is easier and may be how to move forward each year.
- Kasey asked the Tree Board to confirm the November 4th date and it passed. The Arbor Day event will most likely be in the afternoon.

Master Plan Update with Kasey Krouse

- The RFP (Request-for-Proposal) is out and Kasey has already contacted some interested vendors.
- There will be a Q&A next Wednesday, July 13th to nail down some specifics.
- A selection committee is being put together that is being led by Bob Graves and Tom Welbourne.
 - Chad Weth, Jessie Hillman, and KUB will also be involved in the selection process.
 - Kasey has reached out to Knox County as well.
 - August will likely be when the selection process starts and will consist of interviewing of consultants before selecting one.
 - After the selection process, the Tree Board will put together a steering committee.
- No budget number was sent out with the RFP.

Ex-Officio Reports

- Jessie Hillman:
 - Advance Knox is hosting a Lunch-and-Learn today from 12-1 pm.
 - Jessie offered to see if an intern with Knoxville-Knox Planning can find pictures of the local, native trees for the species list on the Urban Forestry website and add a link to a non-profit/educational website with more information on that tree.
- Lee Rumble:
 - ETNLA next Lunch and Learn is July 12th at UT Gardens with Philip Parr with a primarily commercial audience.
 - There are an expected 14-16 attendees.
 - There is an upcoming Eastern region nursery tour with 10 stops over 2 days in Central Florida.
 - This is primarily for growers in the local area.

Upcoming Events

- On August 4th, Tree Board meeting at 8:30 am at the Public Works Service Center at 3131 Morris Avenue.