

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
MAY 2, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Dale Madden at 8:35 a.m. Other board members present were Tom Welborn, Craig Walker, Nick Bridgeman, Jenny Arthur, Daniel Steinhoff, Tracy Polite-Johnson, Anna Toon, and Nick St. Sauveur.

Ex officio members present were Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; Tim Hester, Parks and Recreation; Diane Warwick, State Forestry; Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center; and David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering.

Visiting today was Traci Hellwinckel, Project Manager with Trees Knoxville.

Action Items for May

- April minutes were reviewed and approved.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- 100 new trees have been added to the Missouri Gravel Bed. Tried some different things out this year. Container stock were tried out this year, which Kasey plans to will turn into bare root trees. Some of the new trees include Willow, Hawthorne Bean, Magnolias, and a couple more.
- Both tree supply vendors, and tree planting contracts will be going out for bid. Clauses for staking, sight cleanup, and mulch specifications will be added to the new planting contract.
- The species list will be finalized and ready for review at the June meeting.
- There has been a 15% increase in service request over last year.
- Streetscape projects have experienced some underground soil issues. Kasey is doing a lot of quality control, along with soil testing to insure healthy growth.
- Planting project at Fort Dickerson will be coming online soon.
- The TAEP grant has been approved.
- The gravel bed trees planted in the various communities are looking good.
- Volunteer Forestry classes are going well.

Education & KUB Report by Nick Bridgeman

- Tom Welborn reported that Earthfest went really well. Around 100 trees were given away.
- We will be participating in Waterfest at Ijams. Nick solicited volunteers to work event.
- Neighborhood Conference registrations needs to be in by May 15th.
- Nick is working with Sharon Jean-Philippe to come out to lead a workshop.
- KUB has been busy working to repair storm damage, and continue upgrades in many areas.
- Concerning Arbor Day, Anna is trying to get Christenberry Elementary for this year.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- 4-10-19 Taking Root 2019 committee meeting to establish goals and process for 2019-2020.
- 4-10-19 Tom talked to Dan Moyer with Grayson Motors on potential donations and support for Trees Knoxville.
- 4-13-19 Toured Caesar Stair garden which was Dogwood Featured Garden and Caesar gave a pitch for Trees Knoxville and Volunteer Forester training.
- 4-15-19 Trees Knoxville Grant Committee meeting to plans approach for grants applications this coming year.
- 4-15-19 Kasey did tree walk at Sequoyah Park and we had 18 participants.

- 4-16-19 Attended West High School Environmental Fest and provided tree information to the students and public that attended and 2 volunteers helped.
- 4-17-19 Attended quarterly meeting of Water Quality Forum. UT students presented their work on storm water project for UT campus which could result in a significant increase in tree and vegetated areas on campus.
- 4-20-19 Attended Earthfest 2019. Good participation in spite of rain and cold weather. Distributed a couple hundred trees.
- 4-21-19 Trees Knoxville's new Project Manager, Tracie Hellwinckel, officially started work.
- 4-23-19 New Volunteer Forester Training session started with 21 students attending.
- 4-25-19 Tree planting at Norwood Elementary with 80 kindergarten students and faculty. One dogwood planted at the school with plans to expand tree planting next fall.

Ex-Officio Reports

- Diane Warwick reported on an invasive plant brochure that they've developed.
- Ben Nanny reported that Ijams has purchased Subaru Preserve. They've been working on invasive removal.
- Tim Hester reported that they are working on installing a new esplanade at Lakeshore Park.
- Kasey reminded us that we need to find a replacement for Kenny. Candidate must be a Landscape Architect.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.