

## TREE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

**Date and Time:** June 11, 2015, 6:30 PM  
**Location:** One Renaissance Center-345 High Street  
First Floor-City Council Chambers

### **I. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Doris Bergen, Carol Christian, Ann Coombs, Dan Gladish, Buck Huber, Chelsea Obrebski, Carrie Pate

**Members Absent:** Armond Bloch, Alfred Hall,

**Other Attendees:** Joshua Clifton, Brian Grubb, Jack Moser, Shirley Moser, Jean Obrebski, Andy Weltzer

### **II. Board Minutes**

The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

Moved: Carol Christian

Seconded: Buck Huber

Motion passed.

### **III. Update from Mark Murray**

Mark was unable to attend the meeting. However, he sent a report with the following information:

- I have made a request of the City Manager to approve Buck's re-appointment. The letter to Buck will be signed and sent to him shortly.
- The City Manager wants me to work with Jacob Stone and utilize social media as a method to get individuals interested in the two seats that are opening up, (Alfred's and Carol's).
- As far as I know, all the utility flyers have gone out over the last month.
- The approved minutes for 2015 (January through April) will be posted soon on the City's website.

### **IV. Management Plan Final Approval**

The management plan was approved for submission to Council with one addition. On page 3, under item 3, the statement concerning the Tree Advisory Board activities now has a third bullet, which says, "Collaborate with the Park Conservancy on relevant projects." The Tree Board is already involved in this collaboration so the board agreed that the Management Plan should be approved with that addition.

Moved: Ann Coombs

Seconded: Dan Gladish

Motion passed.

**V. Tree Nursery/Street Tree Planting Update from Flyer**

Doris indicated that she has received over 60 emails regarding tree planting from the flyer that was sent out with the utility bills. Most were requests for a street tree, although there were also a number of other questions and requests. She responded to the requests with thanks and a statement saying their property would be evaluated by our nursery manager (Jack Moser). Jack indicated that he had visited most of the sites and he and Joshua had planted 21 trees in last few weeks. Since it is now too late to plant trees, all other requests are being held for fall tree planting. Discussion involved whether there will be a sufficient number of trees to meet the demand and various options for meeting the demand were suggested. Doris commented that the cost of having these flyers printed (\$745.35) was well worth it since the message about trees and Tree Board activities was apparently noted by many residents.

**VI. Tree Lab Project**

Carol reported that the installation of the identifying plaques has been completed at 5 schools and asked Chelsea to review the tree identities with her at the other schools so that those plaques can be installed. She has \$2000 in budget for this task. The plaques include tree common name, Latin name, and name of tree donor (if donated).

**VII. Crawford Woods Arboretum Update/Plaques Planning**

Doris reported that she, Joel, and Chelsea had surveyed all of the trees and she presented a list of 39 different tree species that will need identifying plaques. Doris passed around a rough diagram of the trees and labels. She indicated that there is \$864.50 left in the Tree Board budget and she has about \$500 in her Foundation Tree Fund if needed. Ann also indicated that she has some Foundation funds available. Carol had indicated that the school plaques cost about \$8 each but since there will be no donor names on these plaques, they may be less costly. Steve Timmer has agreed that the Park Conservancy will take care of installing the wooden posts for the plaques but at present paying for the cost of the posts has not been decided. Doris and Joel will meet with him to determine details. A motion to include both common and Latin names on the plaques and to pay up to \$800 from the Tree Board Budget for this project was approved.

Moved: Dan Gladish

Seconded: Buck Huber

Motion passed.

**VIII. Planning for 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Participation and New Tree Contest**

A discussion of plans for the parade and contest was held and the board decided to continue both activities.

Moved: Dan Gladish

Seconded: Carrie Pate

Motion passed.

Since Doris will be out of town on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Ann, Buck, and Carol will plan the July 4<sup>th</sup> event. Ann will submit the form to the Mayor's office on Friday. Carrie and/or Andy will provide the truck since the truck used last year was Steve Timmer's

and he is grand marshall of the parade this year. The plan will be similar to that of last year, with trees from the nursery being on the truck as well as Tree Board members. Other members will march with the flags. One banner may need to be remade this year since it was time sensitive.

After discussion, it was decided to postpone the Tree Contest to August or September and a number of ideas for theme were discussed. Instead of Big Trees, it might be Unusual Trees, or the various neighborhoods may be asked to identify a special tree in each neighborhood. Ann and Buck will report on ideas at the July meeting.

**IX. Public Education**

**Facebook Page Maintenance.** Doris mentioned that some of the respondents to the flyer had asked if we had a website and were told we had a Facebook page. However, she said that as Alfred is very busy with gardens it would be good if someone would take responsibility for adding items and replying to people who contact us through Facebook. Ann volunteered to look it over and supervise it.

**X. Other Business**

The new MU Conservatory Manager, Brian Grubb, gave the board an overview of his background and he discussed some ideas for planning the Conservatory activities in ways that were more congruent with Tree Board needs and activities. Dan said that he and Brian had discussed getting a list of the species that seemed to be best for the nursery and then they might plan a long term planting project at MU that could then provide trees for the nursery. Brian said that he might be able to propagate trees from the Shumard Oak that won the last Big Tree Contest. There might also be an MU course that is more closely related to growing street trees. Carrie mentioned the issue of finding good types of trees for the main business corridors since they need to be both smaller varieties and also hardy. A variety of suggestions were made and the board expressed agreement that this closer collaboration with the MU Conservatory and faculty would be positive. Doris indicated that Brian was welcome at any and all Tree Board meetings.

**XI. Motion to Adjourn**

Moved: Carol Christian  
Seconded: Chelsea Obrebski  
Motion passed.

The next meeting of the Hamilton Tree Advisory Board will be **on Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 6:30 PM.**