

TREE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Date and Time: July 9, 2015, 6:30 PM
Location: One Renaissance Center-345 High Street
First Floor-City Council Chambers

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Doris Bergen, Armand Bloch, Carol Christian, Ann Coombs, Dan Gladish, Alfred Hall

Members Absent: Buck Huber, Chelsea Obrebski, Carrie Pate

Other Attendees: Jack Moser, Mark Murray, Andy Weltzer, Joel Fink

II. Board Minutes

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as amended.

Moved: Carol Christian

Seconded: Ann Coombs

Motion passed.

III. Report from Andy Weltzer

Andy is a vendor that is serving the McDonald's Restaurant and the Fitton Center.

He reported that the city manager gave permission for the removal of two trees that were in the public way around the restaurant. A total of seven trees were removed. The reason given by the owner was to increase visibility of the restaurant. Andy will be working with the owner to replace some of the trees with smaller ones.

The director of the Fitton Center has indicated that their replacement trees be planted in seven grates on the grounds of the center.

IV. Update from Mark Murray

The second reading by City Council of the Management Plan proposal will take place in August. Mark will inform the board so that members can attend the meeting.

A letter has been sent reappointing Buck Huber to the Tree Board. There will be two vacant seats on the board. One application has been received thus far. The notice inviting applications has been printed in the Journal News and is posted in e-notify.

V. Tree Nursery and Street Tree Planting

Doris reported that she received 111 emails following the inclusion of the flyer in the utility bills. Most of these were requests for trees. Jack reported that thus far he has planted 39 trees and has 8 that he plans on planting in the near future. He indicated that 29 of the requests were in parts of the city that have poor soil and he will need the assistance of an auger in digging the holes. Doris will ask Steve Timmer of the Parks Conservancy for this help and notify the residents that their trees will be planted in fall.

Doris indicated that all requests should be honored even if this requires the purchasing of additional trees beyond those available from the nursery. If more requests are received those residents will be told that the planting will not take place until the fall.

Armand suggested that residents who receive trees also should receive a sheet with care instructions. He noted that some trees planted in his neighborhood have not been cared for well. Dan will locate the tree care information that should go to residents.

VI. Tree Lab

Carol reported that she and Chelsea will be inspecting trees at Linden and Crawford Woods Elementary to get correct labels for those trees. There has been a report of some trees dying at Crawford Woods and some damage at Linden. These will be checked by Carrie and Carol.

VII. Arboretum

Steve Timmer of the Parks Conservancy has agreed to purchase and install the identification posts for the arboretum trees. Doris and Joel are in the process of obtaining the signs that will be placed on these posts. Dan will arrange for removal of some of the honeysuckle that is blocking access to a few of the trees. He also will provide the Latin names for the signs.

VIII. 4th of July Parade

Ann, Buck, Dan, and Carrie participated in the parade and Ann and Dan reported that it was a very successful event. Andy Weltzer's truck was used to carry three trees from the nursery. Banners identified the Tree Board as the sponsor of the parade entry and flags were carried.

IX. Public Education

Ann will assume responsibility for posting items on the Tree Board Facebook page after Alfred leaves the board. Board members are encouraged to give items to Ann frequently so that there is robust activity on the page. It was suggested that Nextdoor, an online tool being used in the Sense of Place initiative, is another place where postings can be made.

Doris reported that she provided the Journal News intern-reporter with many

positive items of information, but that the article that appeared in the JN focused only on the damage done by the emerald ash borer and the high cost of tree removal.

Armond stated that he was told that no items involving trees have come before the Planning Commission.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Armond Bloch

Seconded: Dan Gladish

Motion passed.

The next meeting of the Hamilton Tree Advisory Board will be **on Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 6:30 PM.**