

Urban Forestry Minutes

01/09/12 3pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cassie Banning	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duke Campbell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Reese
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harvey Wright	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Wingate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charlie Mason	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kellie McClellan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Spangler	<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Campbell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Donati	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Gillette

A quorum was met and the meeting was called to order at 3:04pm.

All board members introduced themselves to new board members Harvey Wright, the new park Superintendent, and Duke Campbell the new Public Works Superintendent.

Review/Approval of minutes:

Minutes for 12/12/11

Motion for approval: Ron Spangler

Second: Charlie Mason

Motion: Passed Unanimously

Public Comments: N/A

Urban Forester report/grant updates:

Kellie reported that they had finished clearing the wooded lot around the animal shelter removing lots of brush and weed trees. Parks staff is still grinding stumps and still has lots more to do. Kellie will be attending a Pesticide Applicator core training and exam in Indianapolis through the Purdue University Extension. Kellie has been working on putting together a list of hazardous trees that need pruned or removed and went to each location and reassessed the trees. *(It was noted in discussion under Old Business that Kellie reported that there is \$10 thousand dollars for the entire year of 2012 for hazardous tree removal and pruning. The secretary placed it up here due to its relevancy to the topic.)* Cassie B. asked Kellie if she could send the hazardous tree list around to the board. Kellie reported starting to receive renewal applications, copies of insurance and checks in the mail for Arborist Licensing, assessment fees and postage of ordinance violations. Kellie reported the balance in the Urban Forestry non-reverting fund is: \$1,780. Kellie also updated us on the 2011 CD Grant and said Josh Newsome got an extension from Tom Parkison at Community Development to finish removing one tree at McCulloch and the remaining stumps in Thomas, Heekin and McCulloch parks due to the ground being soft for the last several weeks. Kellie also reported on talking to Adam Williams from Data processing about the i-tree software, and said he would check into it if we were serious and see if Kellie's computer and GPS tablet is compatible with it. Adam also said he would check with Kyle Johnson, the County's GIS coordinator) about specs since the tree inventory is on the County server. Kellie also reported that 40 miles away, Asian Long Horn beetle has been spotted in Ohio and it attacks more species of trees than EAB, and it could be a very serious threat to our trees.

Old Business:

I-tree presentation (Kellie)

Kellie reported that i-tree software was developed by the USDA Forest Service and made possible with some funding through the National Arbor Day Foundation, Davey Tree Experts and the Society of Municipal Arborists. She also mentioned that there are free technical training opportunities available. She also reported that more than 6,000 copies of i-tree have been distributed for free since 2006. She reported i-tree Eco is the most comprehensive and uses data from the tree inventory and recommends that we start with it. She mentioned there are many other versions including i-tree Streets, i-tree Hydro, i-tree Vue, i-tree Design, i-tree Canopy, i-tree Species, i-tree Pest Detection, and i-tree Storm

which all have different tools and resources. More info can be found at www.itreetools.org. Kellie recommends re-applying for the IDNR grant again, when the current one is finished, to get i-tree, technical assistance, and management plan done. Kellie also reported that Adam Williams from Data Processing can only help so much because he is a contracted employee. The board recommended asking Kyle Johnson from the County GIS if he would be willing to help.

Motion: Jim Wingate moved to proceed forward with i-tree program

Second: Ron Spangler

Motion: Passed unanimously

Memorial tree: (Jim Wingate):

Jim W. updated new board members on the program. Jim reported that the MOU is agreed on. He is also creating a brochure to get out to the public and is working with a graphic designer on content and getting print estimates. Jim W. said he anticipates working on it for the next couple months and will get the board a draft.

Storm Management Plan update: (Tom Smith):

Tom S. is out of town and unavailable for the next two board meetings.

Arbor Day Event Planning:

Westside Park is reserved for two shelters. Mayor Tyler has been invited. Kellie reported that we will be receiving Tree City USA designation for 14th year now. American Electric Power (AEP) is donating a tree to plant. Eric Gillete will be there for demonstration, possibly on EAB pesticide application. Pepsi in the past has donated Pepsi products, and we usually purchase hotdogs, buns and chips out of the UF budget. Going to purchase 150 t-shirts for around \$500 and buy saplings to give out, using money in Urban Forestry account. Jim Reese said we will have music again and will pay him \$ 50. Jim R. is also inviting vendors. Cassie inquired with CEP representatives about helping with funding for Arbor Day and Ron S. suggested checking with Roger Gilcrest, the new CEP president, about helping. **Save the Date: April 28th, 2012 Arbor Day Celebration.**

Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan (Cassie):

Cassie wants to meet with Harvey W. and Kellie M. about wrapping up the plan. Cassie went to Master Gardener's exec committee and communicated with them about helping with outreach and education to homeowners. First step would be to fully educate Master Gardeners.

New Business:

UF Management Plan (Kellie)

Ran out of time and will address next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:04 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Donati

Next meeting **February 14, 2012 at 3pm** City Hall