

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
APRIL 5, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Dale Madden at 8:30 a.m. Other board members present were Craig Walker, Jenny Arthur, Daniel Steinhoff, Andrew Caylor, Tom Welborn, and Tracy Polite-Johnson.

Ex officio members present were Diane Warwick, State Forestry; Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; David McGinley, City Stormwater Engineering; and David Vandergriff, UT Ag Extension.

Action Items for April

- March minutes were reviewed and approved.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Kasey is taking request for 2018-2019 tree planting.
- The new Urban Forestry Service Worker will begin on Monday.
- Kasey has submitted a request to add a full time AmeriCorps intern for Urban Forestry.
- Kasey reminded the group to review the Recode Knoxville draft. A staff member from MPC will visit our next Board meeting to discuss those items that are relevant to our mission as a tree board.
- The ISA annual International Conference will be held in Knoxville in the summer of 2019. This is the largest conference held by the ISA. Kasey has requested that Board members and other volunteers actively participate in the local conference steering committee that he and David Vandergriff will oversee. There will be competitions and conference events as well.
- Tree Board workshop will be held at the Public Works Complex on April 24th from 8 a.m. until Noon.

Education Committee & Arbor Day Report by Tom Welborn

- Tom reported that there was a good turnout at the Neighborhood Conference. Quite a bit of material was handed out, and there were many positive responses from individuals that stopped by the booth.
- Trees Knox will provide trees for planting at the Arbor Day celebration at Westview Elementary later this year.
- Earthfest will be held on Saturday, April 28th. A booth has been obtained, and members are asked to sign up to man the booth.
- We will be participating in Waterfest at Ijams Nature Center on May 7th for the morning session which begins at 9:00 a.m.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- Trees Knoxville, along with the help of numerous volunteers, planted trees at the following locations during the month of March: Whittle Springs Middle School, Mt. Olive Elementary School, Blue Grass Elementary School, and the Odd Fellows Cemetery. Funding and/or planting assistance was given by the following groups and organizations: Cortese Tree Specialist, Earthadelic, the Ossoli Circle (as part of Knoxville Parks and Recreation Grant), and the Mirani Foundation.
- Did final review of Racheff Gardens Arboretum on March 5th.
- Trees Knoxville participated in West High School's Environmental Fest organized by the students.
- Trees Knoxville met with KUB and Kasey Krouse to discuss street tree plantings and to ensure that Trees Knoxville was considering utility line locations when planning a tree planting event. Trees Knoxville will share planting plans with KUB for all future tree planting events.

- Trees Knoxville held its board meeting on March 14th. Major topics were finished up internal audit report, discussed potential part-time project manager position, and Recode Knoxville.
- Met with Legacy Parks to discuss their project to support landowners on the French Broad River to restore riparian areas from Seven Islands Park down to the Tennessee River.
- The tree injection equipment from TIPCO, to use on Sequoyah ash trees, has been picked up.
- Participated in the Neighborhood Conference and signed up several people interested in receiving Trees Knoxville's newsletter.
- Planted 2 fruit trees with Whittle Springs Middle School's Garden Club. Trees were purchased with funds from Three Rivers Market and Pattison Sign Group.
- Coordinated with Mike Pauley of KUB to plant 3 dogwoods at Gresham Middle School.
- Coordinated with Adam Fitts to develop a tree planting plan for Dogwood Elementary School. The school will be planting 6 trees next to the playground on April 2nd.
- New Hopewell tree planting is planned for April 7th. Ossoli Circle is providing funding as part of Knoxville Parks and Recreation Grant.

Other Business

- A new tree pest was brought to the Board's attention. The Spotted Lanternfly is making its rounds, and is very host nonspecific, but prefers the Ailanthus Tree (Tree of Heaven). This is a very fast moving pest. It is a bark feeder, and can damage a tree much like the Ash Borer pest.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.