

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
AUGUST 6 2015

The meeting was called to order by David Vandergriff at 8:30 a.m. Other board members present were Sam Adams, Craig Walker, Nick Bridgeman, Tom Welborn, Dale Madden, Patrick Beasley, and Tracie Hellwinckel.

Ex officio members present were Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center, David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering, Liz Albertson, Metropolitan Planning Commission, Tom Simpson, State Forestry Division, and Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry.

Visiting with the Tree Board was Betsy Pickle of the South Knox Shopper News.

Minutes from the June meeting were approved.

Action Items for August Meeting	Responsibility	Target Date
City Update	Kasey Krouse	08/06/15
Education Committee Updates/Reports	Nick Bridgeman	08/06/15
Strategic Plan	Sam Adams	08/06/15
Update on ISA/Utility Arborist Conference	David Vandergriff	08/06/15

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Kasey is going to McMinnville to pick out trees for the upcoming planting season. He passed out a copy of the preliminary tree planting list. He's also waiting to hear about upcoming tree grants that may be beneficial to us.
- Ash tree removal took place at Victor Ashe Park this park. There are several other areas with large ash populations that will be looked at during the year.
- "If Trees Could Sing" signs have been installed in Morningside Park and Victor Ashe Park.
- Kasey has requested that the group email him with the name (s) of possible replacements for Syreeta Vaughn who has resigned.

Education Committee Report by Nick Bridgeman

- The Committee met and discussed Arbor Day plans. This year's celebration will be held in November. They hope to have the plans completed by the next meeting.
- Nick reported on the Tree Board Workshop that he attended at UTK. Larry Tankersly spoke about tree physiology and anatomy, Kasey talked about tree ordinances and his tree canopy study, and Nick talked about planting the right tree in the right place. Nick also gave a walking tour of the utility arboretum at UT Gardens and spoke about the importance of choosing the right tree when planting near above or underground utilities.

Strategic Plan

- Sam passed out copies of the current Strategic Plan, and requested that Board members review the document, and be prepared to discuss it at the September meeting.

ISA/Utility Arborist Conference

- David reported on the 2016 ISA conference, which will be held in Knoxville from March 19-22, 2016. “Managing the Urban Wilderness” will be the theme for the conference. The agenda will include several presenters and other activities, including tree climb. This event will attract several hundred people to Knoxville, and there will be several opportunities for Board members to become involved.

Other Business

There will be a Tree Foundation meeting at Ijams on September 9, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.