

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
JANUARY 3, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Dale Madden at 8:31 a.m. Other board members present were Nick Bridgeman, Tom Welborn, Craig Walker, Daniel Steinhoff, Nick St. Sauveur, and Anna Toon.

Ex officio members present were Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; David McGinley, City Stormwater Engineering; Tim Hester, Parks and Recreation; and David Vandergriff, UT Ag Extension.

Action Items for January

- December minutes were reviewed and approved.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- The Urban Wilderness Gateway project is underway. Review and planning is underway to make this a public use area. This project is headed up by the Parks and Recreation Department. This area is located at the end of James White Parkway and the entrance to the urban wilderness.
- Central Avenue streetscape project is also underway. Planters are being placed in various areas.
- An AmeriCorps member will start with Urban Forestry this month. She will be assisting Kasey with various projects, and inspection reviews.
- General tree planting is halfway completed. Two hundred trees have been placed in the ground at this point.
- Structural pruning will begin soon.
- Island Home Airport project, which involves aerial clearing, is still going forward, and progressing well. There is no City funding for this project.
- Kasey will have four members of his staff participating in the Grounds Management Short Course at the end of January.
- A tree damage clause has officially been added to City's mowing contracts. Contractors will have to pay a fixed amount for damage caused to trees while mowing.
- Horticulture has already begun mulching trees.
- Volunteer Forestry class starts next week.

Education & KUB Report by Nick Bridgeman

- No education report. A meeting is planned for today.
- KUB is nearly finished with the Park City area, but are still working in all other areas.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- Tom met with the committee surveying trees at Knoxville Botanical Garden.
- On Dec. 12th, Tom and Kasey met with Forest Service staff to discuss how to get Knoxville included in the FIA for urban forest in major cities in TN.
- Tom attended webinar sponsored by the Tree Fund on Construction soil and Construction impact.

- First pint night for Trees Knoxville was held at Hexagon Brewing on Dec. 13th and raised over \$100 in donations with about 23 participants.
- Tom participated with the local committee meeting on the 18th for the ISA 2019 conference in Knoxville to plan volunteer participation.
- On Dec. 22nd Trees Knox received 8 applications for the Project Manager position and have started review of these and hope to make a selection by the end of January.
- On Dec. 31st Tom picked up water bags from last year's TAEP Grant plantings. The trees are doing great, and there has been minimal loss.
- TAEP Grant proposed tree planting date will be Feb. 16, 2019.

Ex-Officio Reports

- David McGinley announced that the 2019 East TN Development Symposium, will be held at the Crowne Plaza on March 12-13, 2019.
- Tim Hester reported that Parks and Recreation will be hiring a new Greenway Coordinator. This person is also an AmeriCorps volunteer, and will begin next week.
- David Vandergriff spoke about the Grounds Management Short Course that will be offered later this month. Complimentary registration passes have been offered to both City and County government offices.

2019 Committee Assignments

- Education Committee: Nick Bridgeman, Craig Walker, and Dan Steinhoff.
- Arbor Day: Members and Chair to be determined at next meeting.
- Policy and Planning: Tom Welborn, Dale Madden, and Kasey Krouse. Tom will Chair the committee.
- Nomination Committee: Will be determined at next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.