

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
JUNE 2, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Sam Adams at 8:35 a.m. Other board members present were David Vandergriff, Tom Welborn, Nick Bridgeman, Patrick Beasley, Beth MacDonald, Dale Madden, Craig Walker, and Curtis Casciano.

Ex officio members present were Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center, David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering, and Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry.

Action Items	Responsibility	Target Date
City Update	Kasey Krouse	06/02/16
Education Committee Report	Nick Bridgeman	06/02/16

City Update/Committee Report by Kasey Krouse

- The new intern is onboard, and finalizing the tree inventory. By next week we should be 100% finished with park tree inventory. The street tree inventory is about 75% complete, but the expectation is to be 100% complete by the end of 2016.
- Missouri Gravel Bed is still looking good, however there is a problem with the Sweet Gum and Tulip Poplar. The Sweet Gum problem could be attributed to nursery supply, while the Tulip Poplar may have been getting too much moisture. Quite a few of the Sweet Gum have been replaced with Bald Cypress, and they seem to be doing great.
- Kasey will be applying for the TAEP grant again this year. This money will be used to fund community tree planting projects, and he is requesting that everyone get their request in.
- Funding has been approved for another bucket truck.
- Trees will be going in the ground at Suttree Park in June. This is not an ideal time for planting, but there is irrigation at this location, so the trees should be fine.
- The 700 block of Gay Street is mowing along. Still a lot of work to be done, so the planting will be put off until the fall.
- Tree nursery contracts are out for bid, and the tree planting bids will be out next week. These are one year contracts with three year renewal options. Kasey has added 3" caliper trees to the contract. These trees will be placed in special areas.
- Downtown pruning will begin soon on Summit Hill, Gay Street (northern part) and Clinch Avenue, to hopefully alleviate the conflict with branches and vehicles, and to improve the overall health of the trees. This will be the first proactive undertaking in the downtown area.
- MPC has drafted a new parking lot ordinance, and he would like for the Board to look at the various components of the ordinance, and share their comments. This will be an agenda item for next month's meeting.

Education Committee Report by Nick Bridgeman

- Nick reported that both Earthfest and WaterFest went very well. There was great participation by the children, and both events were very educational.
- Nick would also like to review the Tree Board website, and look at Arbor Day at the next meeting.

- A copy of the new post card type info card that his committee has created was reviewed.
- Nick would like to get some Emerald Ash Borer Identification Tags. These pest have created such a problem for trees, and the cost of removal will be substantial for homeowners. The damage these pest are inflicting on trees is causing many to become unstable and hazardous.

Other Business

Tom Welborn reported that Trees Knoxville is up and running in terms of their connection with Legacy Park, and they have received several donations. Trees Knoxville has selected a tree planting project in the fall which is the Silver Leaf Subdivision, a Habitat for Humanity Project in East Knoxville. Kasey Krouse will be helping with this endeavor. The group has now joined with the Alliance for Community Trees organization, and will also be looking into applying for grant money to help with future planting projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.