

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
MAY 3, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Dale Madden at 8:33 a.m. Other board members present were Tom Welborn, Nick Bridgeman, Jenny Arthur, Andrew Caylor, Tracy Polite-Johnson, and Anna Toon.

Ex officio members present were Diane Warwick, State Forestry; Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; David McGinley, City Stormwater Engineering; David Vandergriff, UT Ag Extension; Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center; Tim Hester, Parks and Recreation; Nick St. Sauveur, Cortese Tree Specialist.

Action Items for May

- April minutes were reviewed and approved.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- The TAEP grant plantings have been inspected. Kasey has reminded everyone to get their tree request in for the new planting season.
- Our Missouri Gravel Bed is getting attention from Lexington, Ky. Representatives from the City of Lexington and the State of Kentucky came down to look at our gravel bed, and to look at some of the sites where these trees have been installed. Lexington has received a grant from the State of Kentucky to install a Missouri gravel bed.
- There are about 60 trees in the gravel bed that Kasey plans to plant this year.
- The Volunteer Forestry Program will begin May 16th and run through June 6th. The classes will be conducted every Wednesday.
- Urban Forestry crews are better able to keep up with proactive tree maintenance and work orders, mainly due to the addition of another bucket truck.
- The University of Tennessee Knoxville has been designated at Tree Campus USA. This adds to Knoxville's proud standing as both a designated Tree City USA and Tree Line USA.
- Due to tree damage caused by mowing contractors, a clause has been added to all mowing contracts that will hold the contractor accountable for the cost to repair or replace damaged trees.
- This had been a good growing season so far. There have been only a few incidents of tree mortality.

Education Committee & KUB by Nick Bridgeman

- There was good representation at the Earthfest event, and many trees were given away.
- Work to revamp the Tree Board display will begin soon.
- Slots were filled for those wishing to work the Waterfest event at Ijams.
- KUB is still working in Holston Hills, Old N. Knox, Golf Course, and the Atlantic Avenue area. Colonial Village will be the next area.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- The final TAEP report was sent to the TN Division of Forestry for review.
- Volunteers planted eight trees at New Hopewell Elementary School on April 7th. Earthadelic assisted in unloading the trees.
- Trees Knox assisted Keep Knoxville Beautiful with tree plantings at Morningside Park and Mechanicsville. Trees were from the KBGA gravel beds.
- An information booth was set up at Knoxville Zoo's Party for the Planet on April 21st, and at Knoxville Earthfest 2018 at the Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum on April 28th.

- Training on injection equipment, and treatment of Ash trees for borer pest was conducted at Sequoyah Elementary School.
- Attended the Sequoyah Hills HOA meeting to discuss Ash tree treatment and other tree issues.

Other Business

- David Vandergriff alerted us to be on the lookout for increase populations of fire ants. This invasive pest comes in red and black their painful bites can injure and even kill. He suggest that everyone beware of large mounds while walking or mowing in your yard. He says that there are some treatment options available to neutralize this pest.
- Dale commented on where Paul is in drafting an action plan from the workshop.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.