

MINUTES  
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

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The meeting was called to order by David Vandergriff at 8:35 a.m. Board members present were Sam Adams, Craig Walker, Brian Campbell, Beth MacDonald, and Dale Madden.

Ex officio members present were Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center, Tom Simpson, State Forestry, David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering, Anne Wallace, Policy and Redevelopment, and Kasey Krouse, Urban Forester.

Visiting with the Tree Board was Tom Welborn of North Hills Community, Betsy Pickle of South Knox Shopper News, Chloe Poole, Siera Darnell, and Dr. Sharon Jean-Philippe of the UT Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries.

Action Items for September Meeting	Responsibility	Target Date
Revisions to By-laws vote	David Vandergriff	09/04/14
City Update	Kasey Krouse	
Update on Urban Forestry Plan	Kasey Krouse	09/04/14
Top 10 Trees Document	Beth MacDonald	09/04/14
Presentation of Logos	Brian Campbell	09/04/14
UT Urban Forestry Students Presentation	Chloe Poole, Siera Darnell & Dr. Sharon Jean-Philippe	09/04/14

*\*Shaded items will be removed after next meeting.*

By-Law Revisions by David Vandergriff

The first order of business was discussing the proposed by-law changes. Sam Adams made a motion, which was seconded by Beth MacDonald, to approve the by-law changes, contingent upon review by the City Law Department. The Board voted in favor of the changes. Proxy votes in favor of the changes were submitted by Patrick Beasley and Kim Davis.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

Kasey discussed the updates to the Urban Forestry Plan document. After he submits his revisions, the plan will go back to the sub-committee members for final review, and then submitted to Council for approval.

Kasey reported on a couple of upcoming presentations that he will be giving. He will present the Tennessee Urban Forest Study in Nashville at the Tennessee Urban Forest Conference on September 18, 2014; the Benefits of an Urban Forest to the TCAPWA meeting in Nashville on October 9, 2014; and the Tennessee Urban Forest Study and the Best Management Practices for Stormwater and Construction as it relates to trees will be presented on November 4 & 5, 2014 at the Development Symposium at the Knoxville Convention Center.

Tree Planting List: Close to six hundred planting sites throughout the City has been identified, and he will be making a trip to McMinnville next week to look at available tree species. The purchases will include a

mixture of flowering and non-flowering trees. There will also be trees available for neighborhood and community request.

Tree inventory work is about 25 to 30 percent finished. Kasey passed out several matrixes they created, along with preliminary numbers. Most parks, fire stations, and core areas of downtown have been finished. The summer intern, UT Forestry student Garret Gregg, was very helpful in gathering this information, and we're looking forward to working with the Forestry students again.

Lakeshore Park demolition is still coming along nicely. Bacterial leaf scorch is affecting some of the large Pin Oaks and Sycamore trees at the park.

Suttree Landing Park and Marble Alley streetscaping is underway, there will be future updates.

#### Top 10 Trees Brochure

Beth MacDonald presented a copy of the Top 10 Trees brochure. Board members will assist her with any changes and updates that need to be made to this brochure. Grant money will be used to print copies of the brochure, which will be added to the Tree Board's educational material.

#### Logo Designs

Brian Campbell brought several great logo design concepts for the Board to consider. Brian will continue to work on designs, and send updated copies out to members.

#### Other Business

David reported that Rebekah Jane Montgomery has submitted her resignation, and Kim Davis' term will expire this year. We will be accepting nominees for these two positions. Kasey has submitted four names to the Mayor's office for consideration to finish Rebekah's term. Brian Campbell will replace Rebekah on the Nominating Committee.

Anne Wallace reported that the Downtown Way Finding Signage project has been approved by Council, and there will be a preconstruction meeting next week. Construction should begin later this month. The goal for this project is to make it easier for visitors and residents to navigate through Knoxville to places of interest. Also, the Cumberland Avenue Corridor Project will be going out for bid later this month. This is a two phase project, which will begin in a few months, and will run through the 2016 football season.

Kasey was approached about the Tree Board setting up a booth at the Green Earth Blue Skies Festival in Farragut, on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 until 4:30, at the Campbell Station Park. He will send out emails to all members to see if anyone wants to commit.

#### UT Urban Forestry Students Presentation

The presentation covered two parcels in South Knoxville, Marie Myers Park and the William Hastie Natural Area. The work presented was part of their Inventory Assessment and Urban Lands class activity. The research focused on applying urban forestry findings through a bottoms-up (on site) and top down (aerial) approach. They focused on live and dead saplings of various tree types, what types of trees and limber are produced in each location, identifying invasive bushes and trees at each site, control of invasives, hazardous tree removal, timber harvesting, and the various challenges encountered in maintaining a natural area. A question and answer period followed the presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.