

MINUTES  
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Dale Madden at 8:32 a.m. Other board members present were Tom Welborn, Nick Bridgeman, Jenny Arthur, Tracy Polite-Johnson, Tracie Hellwinckel, and Anna Toon.

Ex officio members present were Diane Warwick, State Forestry; Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; Randall Whitehead, City Stormwater Engineering; Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center; and Tim Hester, Parks and Recreation.

Special guest was Sam Adams, UTK Arborist.

**Action Items for September**

- August minutes were reviewed and approved.

**City Update** by Kasey Krouse

- Kasey has purchased 550 trees for the requested plantings, and also a few new species to try out around town. Some of the trees found were Shingle Oaks, Dawn Redwoods, Appalachian Snow Mist Dogwoods, Japanese Snowbell, and Purple Lope Locus to name a few.
- A brush pickup survey was passed out to get the Board's perspective. Looking at the brush removal codes.
- Kasey's working on a few redevelopment projects that have some tree and landscaping components in them.
  - Magnolia Avenue project began a couple of weeks ago.
  - 600 block of Market Street will be going out to bid. Structural cells will be installed underneath the sidewalks.
  - The back entrance of Fort Dickerson will be going out for bid soon. There is a planned planting of around 150 trees.
  - Central Avenue is also another redevelopment area where trees will be installed.
- Soil specification is another project that Kasey will be working on. He's looking into getting a stockpile of soil that has the proper pH balance and nutrients for most tree plantings. This will alleviate some of the time spent on finding the appropriate soil for planting most trees.

**Education and KUB** by Nick Bridgeman

- No education report
- He reported that KUB is continuing their working in West Hills, North Hills, and they're almost finished in the Colonial Village area. KUB's website is a good resource for finding information on where pruning and updates will be taking place.

**Arbor Day** by Anna Toon

- Anna spoke with Susan, of Westview Elementary, in August, and she has requested that their environment club be allowed to get involved with the Arbor Day poster contest and the presentation. The Board discussed this, and will get back with her. The program will be held on November 2, 2018.
- Anna has sent program ideas and poster guidelines to Susan. Committee members will meet on September 17<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans for the event.

### **Trees Knoxville Report** by Tom Welborn

- Monthly Volunteer Foresters meeting at Elkmont Exchange on 8-8-18. Discussed upcoming projects and agreed to develop an “adopt a campus” program.
- The Root Committee had its first meeting on 8-9-18 to establish campaign goals and develop outreach package to provide to potential donors. The target goal is \$30,000 per year for next three years to fund the program management position.
- Attended the Tennessee River Network Conference 8-13-18 to look for opportunities for partnering with other groups.
- Attended meeting 8-16-18 with Kasey Krouse, and Kevin Tippens with Knoxville Disc Golf Association, to look at a potential project at Victor Ashe Park. Agreed to submit grant application to Parks and Recreation for a tree planting around four disc pads and along the walking trail.
- Field trip 8-18-18 to Tambark Development on Sharps Ridge with Native Plant Rescue Squad to recommend development consideration to protect trees on property.
- Meadow Creek Soccer Field Riparian planting with Knox County Stormwater and Native Plant Rescue Squad on 8-25-18. Planted 80+ native trees and shrubs along Meadow Creek with 12 volunteers.

### **Other Business**

- Mentioned was the TN Vegetation Management Conference is an upcoming utility event in Nashville at the end of September, and several other events. A list of events will be gathered and posted on the Board’s website.
- Tracy Polite-Johnson presented a draft of the Board’s rack card she’s been working on. There was a discussion on about how to present it on the website, and other possible changes that need to be made.

### **UT Projects** by Sam Adams

- Sam spoke about the parking policy around the UT Area.
- One of his future plans is to create a Pollinator Greenway that has a pollinator garden to attract bees.
- UT is also working on becoming a Bee City USA. A beehive was discovered in a construction area, and Tess Arnold was called in to perform a bee rescue.
- Demolition is set for a portion of the Hodges Library. When this portion is removed it will be converted to a greenway.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.