

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
OCTOBER 8, 2015

The meeting was called to order by David Vandergriff at 8:30 a.m. Other board members present were Tom Welborn, Dale Madden, Patrick Beasley, Kenneth Townsend, and Craig Walker.

Ex officio members present were Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center, David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering, Liz Albertson, Metropolitan Planning Commission, Tom Simpson, State Forestry Division, and Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry.

Minutes from the September meeting were approved.

Action Items for October Meeting	Responsibility	Target Date
City Update	Kasey Krouse	10/08/15
Education Committee: Arbor Day	Nick Bridgeman	10/08/15

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Marble Alley project is going well. Tree installation will be relatively soon.
- Trees will be pulled from nursery in mid- November and placed in holding yard. Tree planting will begin sometime in December.
- The opening for a Public Service Worker has been changed to a Tree Specialist position. This will complement the existing crew. This position will be posted next month.
- Urban Forestry is expecting to get a new bucket truck. This will help in our efforts to be more proactive with our tree maintenance throughout the city.
- Public Works Complex project on Loraine Street is progressing well. This facility will house several departments. A lot of work, such as, installation and maintenance on the building will be done in-house by Public Service crews.

Education Committee Report

- The Arbor Day Celebration will be held at Lonsdale Elementary on November 6, 2015. E-vites will be sent out as soon all details are worked out. This program will take the place of our regular monthly meeting.
- Beth MacDonald is putting together gifts for participants and leaders.
- Arbor Day posters are in, and will be laid out at Ijams for Board members to judge prior to the program.
- Dr. Sharon Jean-Philippe with the UTK Forestry Department and a group of her students will be our guest for the December meeting.

Other Business

- Kasey would like to put together a report about the Tree Canopy Assessment findings, and make this report available to the public. After some discussion it was agreed to by the members to activate the ad hoc Urban Canopy Committee to research and review current canopy cover data, and to set canopy cover goals and management strategies for Knoxville.
- David Vandergriff has requested that the Board reassess how important a Tree Foundation is to the Tree Board, and whether the current discussions are proving to be beneficial to this end. He suggested that we should discuss our vision, and discuss what future approach should be taken to fulfill this vision.
- There was a brief discussion on controlled burning. Tom Welborn shared information on EPA standards, and Tom Simpson shared information on what has been done in other areas, and the research that he has done on the issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.