

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
FEBRUARY 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Sam Adams at 8:35 a.m. Other board members present were Nick Bridgeman, Kenneth Townsend, Tracie Hellwinckel, Dale Madden, Anna Toon, Tom Welborn, Beth MacDonald, and Traci Polite-Johnson.

Ex officio members present were Tom Simpson, State Forestry, David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering, and Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry.

Minutes from the January meeting were approved with a motion by Tom Welborn and seconded by Beth MacDonald.

Action Items	Responsibility	Target Date
Urban Forestry Report State of Urban Forestry	Kasey Krouse	02/02/17
Education Report Website & Brochure Updates	Nick Bridgeman	02/02/17
Trees Knoxville Report	Tom Welborn	02/02/17

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Planting Update: B & B has planted about 450 of the 500 trees. Planting has been going well, with only a few correctable issues.
- Development Projects:
 - 700 block of Gay Street will be installed today. Planting looks good.
 - Island Home Streetscape project is finished, and looks good.
 - Marble Alley project is also finished, and the final walkthrough is complete.
- 2017-2018 planting meetings are underway. Kasey has already met with several neighborhoods to discuss future plantings, and the planting process. He will continue to update the notification and information process. He has asked for recommendations from the Board.
- The TUFC will meet in Knoxville. The council is working on putting together a rate for tree board members to attend.

State of Urban Forestry Overview by Kasey Krouse

- The Board reviewed several recommendations that will be presented to the Mayor. These recommendations were based on the State of Urban Forestry report presented by Kasey.
 - Expand funding and explore grant opportunities to complete a city-wide tree assessment on both private and public lands.
 - Update the language in Article II of the Tree Protection Ordinance, and bring it into alignment with the current organizational structure of the City.
 - Hire an individual from the green industry to assist the Urban Forestry Division in plans review and inspections of development projects City-wide.
 - Expand funding to contract services to combat emerging pest and disease issues that are significantly impacting the overall health of our urban forestry, and creates safety hazards for the public.

Education Committee Report by Nick Bridgeman

- Nick walked us through the updates to the website that were discussed at the last meeting, and discussed how the changes would improve the overall appearance and functionality of the website. He requested comments and recommendations from the Board before this is sent to the webmaster. This project is expected to be completed by the March meeting.
- This committee will meet again on March 23rd @ 10 am to discuss and begin preparing for Arbor Day which will be held on November 3, 2017.
- Beth brought us an update on the 10 Trees brochure.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- Trees Knoxville will be involved in the 100K state wide tree giveaway on Feb 25th, and a tree planting on UT campus on March 3rd.
- The group will be working on updating the Champion Tree list for Knox City and Knox County.

Other Business

- Sam Adams completed the committee appointments.
- Traci Johnson-Polite was welcomed to the Board.
- Tom Simpson announced that the TAEP Grant will be coming up again in May. This year, the Urban and Community Grant money may not be available, however, there is a chance that a grant will be pulled from another area, which may free up more grant money that will expire in September.
- Sam mentioned a tree brochure that he had ran across that was specifically designed for children. It showed kid friendly activities parks.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.04 a.m.