

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
JANUARY 8, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Sam Adams at 8:35 a.m. Other board members present were David Vandergriff, Tom Welborn, Liz Hannah, Tracie Hellwinckel, Beth MacDonald, and Patrick Beasley.

Ex officio members present were Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center, Liz Albertson, Metropolitan Planning Committee, Tom Simpson, State Forestry Division, Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry, and Anne Wallace, Policy and Redevelopment.

Visiting with the Tree Board was Betsy Pickle of South Knox Shopper News, and sitting in for ex-officio member David McGinley was Aaron Kline with Stormwater Engineering.

Minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Action Items for January Meeting	Responsibility	Target Date
Committee Appointments	Sam Adams	01/08/15
City Update	Kasey Krouse	01/08/15
Urban Forestry Progress Report	Kasey Krouse	01/08/15

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

Sam began the meeting by asking for an ad-hoc committee to commit to attending the Tree Foundation discussion meeting that is schedule for January 25, 2015 at Ijams Nature Center. Tom Welborn, Tracie Hellwinckel, and Sam Adams will represent the Tree Board. Kasey Krouse and David Vandergriff will attend in other capacities.

He also reminded the Board about vacancies on the various committees. Members are requested to email their appointment request.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Tree Planting is two-thirds of the way finished. The contractor plans to have all trees planted by the end of January.
- Kasey and David Brace will meet with Mayor Rogero on February 26, 2015, to discuss the new Urban Forestry document before presenting to City Council.
- Kasey is working on updating the recommended tree list for Knoxville. He plans to add a section on edible trees of various sizes, types, and identify best planting locations.
- A tree canopy report that addresses tree assessment on the neighborhood level is in the works for 2015.
- The Urban Forestry Division is working on improving the way they do business. There has been a focus on shifting from reactive work to proactive work. The group is involved in various types of training classes, such as, prune training and EHAP training. He's looking forward to purchasing new tools and equipment that will increase work efficiency.

He is also promoting ISA Certification and other types of tree related certifications within the forestry group.

- Kasey reminded everyone that this is the perfect time to seek out neighborhood groups that might be interested in having someone come out to speak at one of their meetings.

[Urban Forestry Program Progress Report](#) by Kasey Krouse

The Tree Board reviewed the report, and after some discussion and a few corrections, the document was adopted and approved by vote, to present to the Mayor.

Other Business

David Vandergriff updated us on the Pellissippi State Tree Campus activity. He spoke with Regina McNew about the Tree Campus application document. They plan to apply after they have addressed some campus landscape issues.

Tracie Hellwinckel asked Kasey if there were any online maps that identified the trees planted in the various neighborhoods. He said that he has none at this time, but that a program can be purchased at an additional expense. Several did agree that this would be a great addition to our website.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.