

**KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 3RD, 2022**

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The meeting was called to order by Dan Steinhoff at 8:33 am. Other board members present were Bob Graves, Charles Kwit, Gordon Coker, Jessie Hillman, Jessica Rodocker, Nick Bridgeman and Kayla Stuart.

Ex-Officio members present were Joe Cope, Lee Rumble, Diane Warwick, Tim Hester, David McGinley, Sophie Carter, Tom Welborn and Melanie Overall.

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**Action Items for November**

- Motion to approve September minutes made by Gordon Coker and seconded by Jessica Rodocker. The motion passed.
- Motion to approve October minutes made by Gordon Coker and seconded by Jessica Rodocker. The motion passed.

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**City Update with Joe Cope**

- Joe reminded everyone of Arbor Day tomorrow. Kasey is out of town today for training, but will be in attendance for Arbor Day. Setup begins at 8:00.
- Planting season begins this month. There are 500 trees, with half being the City's and the other half Trees Knoxville.
- The 2 blocks around the Old Supreme Court building will be planted. The ginkgo trees on Henley will be replaced and the planting sites made more productive with more dirt.
- This has been the City's busiest year yet with more work orders.
- Pro-active work: Central Services has gotten Main Street and Summit Hill pruned. Still lack Henley, Gay, Clinch, Church, and Locust Streets.
- Next year, trimming will be in west Knoxville.

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**Trees Knoxville Update with Tom Welborn**

- The Trees Knoxville staff has signed the contract for master plan. First call was on Monday and will start meeting with steering committee soon.
- North Hills Park will be the site for the next tree walk on December 8<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30-5:30 pm. Kasey will be doing a Q&A session with prizes.
- Regeneration meeting tomorrow at Baker Center
- November 18<sup>th</sup> is the tree giveaway
- Volunteer Forestry Program-no date yet for 2<sup>nd</sup> training.
- Signed agreement with Earthadelic for support and started last week.
- No times yet for tree planting
- Spring Hill Elementary – selected 10 sites for trees.
- Trees Knoxville has added 2 new board members: Jessica Rodocker and Christopher Weaver

- Trees Knoxville will have table set up on Arbor Day, 11/4.

#### **Arbor Day Update with Jessica Rodocker**

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- The Arbor Day Event will be November 4<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at Sam Duff Park.
- There will be planting of 4 or 5 trees. Tim Hester stated he asked Kasey to only plant that many because the playground will be replaced in the spring. For the event, parking in side lot by antique mall and off Chapman is suggested.
- Jessica didn't have anything new to add about the event.
- Tim said the mayor will be dedicating the new dog park located there.
- Dan stated there is a big program planned and a large crowd is expected.

#### **Ex-Officio Reports and Others**

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- Jessie Hillman
  - The next step in the Advance Knox comprehensive planning process is to develop a draft of plan recommendations. The next round of public input will be in February to review that draft.
- Lee Rumble
  - Lee reported his nursery tour in Central Florida went well.
- Sophie Carter
  - Party for the Planet event, Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-6:00. Noon setup, if anyone wants to assist
- Diane Warwick
  - TUFC has their awards each year and Knoxville Tree Board won the Excellence Award. They assisted with Urban Canopy and master plan. She said Congratulations! She brought hats and Smokey keychains for anyone who wanted them. Kayla is accepting the award and will bring it to the December meeting. She is also giving a presentation on tree boards at the award ceremony. She commented about the different certifications and the leaning towards SAF being the certification of the future, most likely in 2023.
- Nick Bridgeman
  - Our area had a lot of bad storms in June and July that kept them busy. Infrastructure impacts left people without power for 2 days. There were other storms in Broadacres that affected a lot of people. We had 3 storm events in the same area, back to back. They have 40-50, 3-man crews out at most times.
  - Since 2018, we have had large property owner turnover, with some areas up to 30%.
  - Trim work in Sequoyah Hills this past year went well. It took 2 ½ months compared to 7 months last time.
  - KUB is happy to come out to look at any issues. They have a very diverse group of 10-12 UF members and conservationists.
  - They average 4,000 service requests per year.
  - He discussed at length the line clearance certifications.

- Dan asked if KUB has a list of trees that the public would not want to plant. They do not, but TVA does on their website. KUB tries to target invasive and non-native trees in our area.
- Gordon Coker
  - Heat map study from UT is out. He is doing webcam meeting on Monday.
- Jessica Rodocker
  - Keep Knoxville Beautiful is hosting a summit on November 10<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 4pm at the East TN History Center.
  - The Mayor of Greenville, South Carolina will be the keynote speaker.
  - Kasey Krouse will be on the panel. Members of the Baltimore Tree Trust (Ryan Austin, speaker) will be present and the City of Knoxville's Mayor will be present.
  - Free event, with lunch purchase available. Register online.

Lee asked for the October minutes to be corrected to show the Krutch Park Tree Walk date be changed from November 19<sup>th</sup> to October 19<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 am.

### Upcoming Events

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- November 4<sup>th</sup>- Arbor Day Event at Sam Duff Park at 11am.
- November 6<sup>th</sup>-Party for the Planet.
- November 10<sup>th</sup>-Keep Knoxville Beautiful conference at the East TN History Center 11am-4pm.
- December 1<sup>st</sup>-Tree Board Meeting at the Public Works Service Center at 8:30am.