



CITY OF URBANA TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, June 7, 2023
TIME: 1:30 PM
PLACE: 706 South Glover Avenue Urbana, IL 61802

MINUTES

****due to unforeseen circumstances, these minutes are transcribed from the agenda & member's notes (instead of a recording) and are not a complete record****

Members Present: Carol Augspurger, Michael Stevenson, & others

Members Absent:

Others Present: Kevin Sanderson, Marcus Ricci

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order. Roll call was taken. A Quorum of Members was present.

2. Changes to the Agenda

none

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. December 2022 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes, it was seconded. Motion approved.

4. Public Input

none

5. Unfinished Business

a. MOP Development and the Current Development Zoning Ordinance for Tree Planting – CD Marcus Ricci

Marcus from the City Planning Division gave a background. The overall goal is to consolidate to 1 list of species to be used for all City use. Some points discussed were:

- i. Align species in the current ordinance with other specie lists used within the City.
- ii. The decisions should be based on a list of 7 unique characteristics of a species list based on input from the City Arborist plus criteria set by the Tree Commission.
- iii. Should there be a separate list for trees in citizens' lawns, shrubs screening around parking lots/outdoor storage keeping public safety in mind, or trees under power lines?

b. Arboricultural Specifications Manual Tree Species Revision

There is no timeline to complete the consolidated list of species. There was a request for a separate meeting to discuss only decisions about each tree on the current list in the MOP (Manual of Practice). Michael Stevenson volunteered to create a document that is usable.

c. 2510 Scovill Circle Linden Trees removal request

A motion was made to not approve the removal of 2 Linden trees at 2510 Scovill Circle, it was seconded. Motion approved.

6. Reports of City Officials and Staff and Reports of Committees

a. Spring 2023 Replacement/Donation Planting Lists

Kevin Sanderson went over the Spring 2023 Replacement and Donation planting lists.

b. 2023 Arbor Day Event

Kevin Sanderson announced that the 2023 Arbor Day event will be held at Cunningham Children's Home.

c. Winter 2022/2023 Contractor Removal List Update

Kevin Sanderson summarized the Winter 2022/2023 Tree Removal list. A contractor will remove 24 trees in January and City staff will remove 84 trees.

7. New Business

a. Tree Commission By-Laws revision by Kate Brickman – Kevin Sanderson

The By-Laws that were recently revised were given to each commission member for their education and referral.

b. Detroit Residents Pushing Back Against Tree Planting – Carol Augspurger

Carol referred to an article about why Detroit residents resist tree planting. The discussion that followed included what lessons there are to encourage Urbana residents to plant trees and to educate them about the benefits of planting trees.

c. Encouraging City to Fund Money on Trees – Carol Augspurger

Carol reinforced the continuing need for the commission to encourage the City to fund money for trees.

8. Announcements

A special meeting was scheduled for July 19, 2023 to be devoted solely to making decisions about each species' inclusion in the approved list of species for planting.

9. Future Topics

none

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.