

FOREST BOARD MINUTES APRIL 10, 2019

PRESENT: Chairperson Leah Netherland, City Forester Ryan Lewis, Mayor Tony Williams, Dale Kinney, Mick Vissing, Rick Vissing, Sarah Hitt, Gil Zinner, Sallie Schoen, Michael Blum, Shirley Robben, Gary Robben, recorder Marie Eff

REVIEW OF MINUTES: The March minutes were reviewed; Rick made a motion to approve the minutes and Dale seconded the motion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The pruning in Curlew Park has been finished by Ryan.

Three out of 7 eligible people paid \$75.00 to participate in our pruning program. Eighteen out of 27 eligible people paid \$40.00 to participate in another pruning program. We received positive feedback and will repeat them next year.

The shrubs in Wren Park will be pruned on an upcoming work day.

There were 5 work days in March for tree plantings and future site preparations.

There was discussion about the care of the chestnuts on Cardinal next to the golf course. Tony reports that per the city attorney, Audubon Park has control of the easement. We would like to plant more trees in the easement but should first establish a plan between Audubon Park and the Country Club.

We will ask the Country Club to remove a declining tree.

There was discussion about including 30 days' notice for tree removal in the forest code; Leah will relay that to the council.

Water tube applications have not yet been done.

We are waiting for the city of Louisville to perform its final inspection for the water line in Curlew Park. Oriole Park's water site has been assessed by BC Plumbing, the water company has received its paperwork and BUD will be scheduled for a site visit. All parks now have an official address.

There was discussion regarding the permit for easement tree pruning or removal:

Otto, Janette and Leah's names will be listed; directions for filing will be contained in the permit; no fee will be charged for the permit; the homeowners' name is to be included in the permit; the Forest Board designee will consult with the homeowner about replacement; the tree removal company will have workman's comp, liability insurance and an Audubon Park issuee; if pruning/removal is approved, the city will issue a permit; if the permit is not approved, the homeowner must refer to the city code under appeals and penalties; a permit must be in the homeowners hand before removal is scheduled; at the beginning of the permit it shall read, "In the interest of preserving our canopy..."

Tony would like a web site portal that shows who has seen the permit.

Ryan offered to call the tree companies we have on file to let them know that there will be a fine for any homeowner who doesn't have a tree permit in hand.

The new Forest Code is still being worked on.

The chestnut trees at the foot of Cardinal can be pruned on a work day.

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Tony would like the city trailer to be repaired for brush removal.

Michael and Laura Kelty are working on the Audubon Park Forest Board website.

FORESTER REPORT: A storm damaged tree on Cardinal Drive was removed. Another Cardinal Drive home had a tree removed but it was not the tree designated a nuisance. There was some discussion about levying fines for not obtaining tree permits.

At least 2 trees in Curlew Park have chestnut blight.

Through the pruning program Ryan and Drew were able to keep costs down.

We should anticipate loss of our large ashes in the next several years.

Several ashes and a maple on the country club easement will eventually need removal.

BUDGET: We have \$17,000.00 left this fiscal year.

NEW BUSINESS: We have 5 new tree sites, one of which is a hazard tree replacement.


This summer and fall Michael will regularly water the 4 new trees in Curlew Park and Gary and Shirley will adopt the pecan tree in Wren Park.

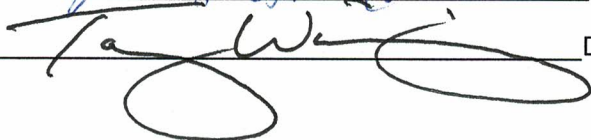
We have had 4 homeowners fail to obtain tree permits. Tony will talk to the police about informing homeowners of the proper procedure for pruning or removal.

The Board will consider budgeting a discretionary fund or allowing small monthly payments for financially challenged homeowners.

WORK DAY: The next work day is Wren Park 9am to prepare for the Dogwood Festival.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held May 8, 2019 6:30pm at City Hall.

SIGNATURE OF CHAIRPERSON:  DATE: 6/12/19

SIGNATURE OF MAYOR:  DATE: 6/12/19