

**MINUTES OF THE TREE COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT THE GREENFIELD DPW, ON THURSDAY,
March 10, 2016, AT 6:36 PM**

1. Joan Stevens, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM

**Meeting called to order
at 6:38 PM**

Roll Call:	Joan Stevens	Present
	Ald. Bruce Bailey	Present (6:38pm)
	Michael Wendt	Present
	Becky Thorpe	Excused
	Lew Silva	Present
	Terry Krell	Present
	Dan Ewert	Present

Also Present:

	Dennis Fermenich	City Forester
	Rick Moze	

2. Approval of the January 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes

**Approval of 01/14/16
Minutes**

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Mr. Silva, to approve the January 14, 2016 meeting minutes.

3. Aldermanic Project

Aldermanic Report

Ald. Bruce Bailey spoke about the Cobalt Project which is going in between 84th Street to 92nd Street, north of Layton to the freeway. He has spoken with the developer who is interested in making it very appealing to the eye. There will be a lot of trees and green space with a bike and pedestrian area.

4. Superintendent of Public Works Report

Public Works Report

Public Works is almost finished with the structural pruning for the season. Presently working on hazard tree removal. Public Works & Parks is working on some pruning at the Historical Society and cleaning up the grounds. DPW will do some maintenance around the area to help make it more appealing. A new sign will probably be going up. A new roof will be going on the building as well.

5. Chair Report

Chair Report

Met with Dennis regarding plans for the coming year in Forestry. Suggested to have members of the Tree Commission write an article each month to draw attention to residents of the City regarding Forestry. Each member would take a month for an article to be written. The following are members and the months they are assigned:

April: Lew Silva
June: Dan Ewert
July: Mike Wendt
August: Bruce Bailey
Sept.: Dennis Fermenich
October: Rick Moze
November: Terry Krell

Ms. Stevens & Mr. Fermenich met with the Greenfield School Superintendent, Lisa Elliott twice, to talk about ideas for getting together with Greenfield Schools and getting a better program with them. Ms. Elliott was very receptive to the idea.

Ms. Stevens spoke about Arbor Day and passed out flyers. Ms. Stevens spoke about changes for Litter Day. Beautification Committee does not want to be a part of Litter Day any longer. Ms. Stevens spoke with the person in charge of Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful, he said the City of Greenfield the largest program out of all of the communities and the most successful and he did not want to see Greenfield drop out of the program. He said he would have his interns do all of the collating for the City of Greenfield and they will deliver all the supplies to Greenfield City Hall at no charge. Ms. Stevens will continue to be the Chairperson.

Ms. Stevens spoke with the individual who does plaques for the City of Greenfield. She would like a plaque for recognition of the Mini Arboretum within the school at Maple Grove. Bruce Bailey will check on doing this and Ms. Stevens will work on a prototype for this project and present it to the school for approval prior to the plaque being completed. Tree Commission suggested having a contest on what to name the Arboretum. Have the school children come up with suggestions.

Schools will not be participating in the Ecology Essay Contest this year. Possibly in 2017 and they will have 4th graders be the participants instead of 1st graders.

6. City Forester's Report

City Forester's Report

Mr. Fermenich discussed with the school Superintendent that he would like to have at least one Arbor Day ceremony held at one public school during school each year in Greenfield. Have schools take turns having the event. Mr. Fermenich feels this would help educate young people. It seems as if there is interest in this. Mr. Fermenich would also like to introduce the program "*I Tree Design*", to the schools and have the students utilize the program. Would also like to introduce the Horticulture Apprentice program to the high schools. Randy Krause is aware of it & the high schools are very interested in sharing this with the students.

Mr. Fermenich is currently working on the landscaping for the new Amphitheater that is going up at Konkel Park. Mike Dermody, a Public Works employee worked with Mr. Fermenich on designing the trees and landscape that will surround the Amphitheater. Still have more décor to work out.

Public works is still continuing to work on tree removals. (about 200 trees will be removed by the time the winter is over.) Pinchy, Sluggo, Buzz, Chip & Chappy are the crew members taking care of the tree removals. They are continuously filling the dumpsters with 8 foot long logs. They are becoming very efficient in the removal and clean-up of the trees. Great job is being done!

Mr. Fermenich has had several conversations via phone or by e-mail with City Atty. Roger Pyzyk's assistant regarding licensing. He is out of the office until May 21st.

Experiment with the Urban Wood Coalition is going well.

7. Review of Arborist Conference

Review of Arborist Conference

Mr. Ewert stated that each of the individuals from Public Works that went to the Arborist Conference were very thankful for the opportunity to attend.

8. Changes to Master Tree List

Tree list from last year was provided. It was suggested to remove Pecan tree lilac tree as it has shown recently to be highly invasive. It is listed in category 4 to be more of an ornamental planting. Take Calary Pear off planting list. Lots of evidence that this is also an invasive species. Fast growing, thorny, no wildlife value plant. Cut back on planting them and eventually remove them from list. Discussion of trees to plant going forward and what trees would be better taken off lists. Accepted as submitted by all members present.

Changes to Master Tree List

9. Tree Planting Contract

Tree planting contract was awarded to Dan Larson Landscaping. 259 trees are scheduled to be planted.

Tree Planting Contract

10. Review of Forester's Contract (closed session)

Review of Forester's Contract (closed session)

11. Discussion & Decision regarding Arbor Day Ceremonial Tree

Arbor Day will be held on Saturday, May 7th. It was moved by Mike Wendt to approve and seconded by Terry Krell. An Arbor Day flyer will be printed and prepared for Ms. Stevens to distribute.(350 copies)

Discussion & Decision regarding Arbor Day

12. Suggested date for next meeting: May 12, 2016 @6:30pm.

Suggested Date for Next Meeting

13. Adjournment

It was moved by Ald. Bruce Bailey seconded by Mr. Wendt, to adjourn the Tree Commission meeting at 7:56 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Kubacki
Clerk Typist
Division of Public Works

Date distributed: 04/13/2016

