



Shade Tree and Beautification

March 30, 2021

Commission Meeting

Minutes

3:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Susan Kahrl	Board Member	Absent	
Kate Burley	Board Member	Present	
James Brown	Chair	Present	
Brian Ball	City Engineer	Present	
Richard Dzik	Safety Service Director	Absent	
Colleen Clarkson		Present	
Quetin Platt		Present	
Tanner Salyers	At Large	Absent	

Judy Ashcraft-Recording Secretary
Brian Wade-Wade and Gatton Nursey

MINUTES APPROVAL

Minutes of January 26, 2021

Mr. Brown asked that the January minutes be brought back in April for approval.

February 23, 2021

Ms. Clarkson made a motion to accept February minutes. Ms. Burley seconded the motion. Motion carries.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Brown stated that we are still in good shape financially. Custom Cutter is going to do the powder coating for the archway at Shellmar Park, the cost will be \$1375.00. The City logo and all the letters will be across the top. Colby Clippinger, Building Trades Class at the Career Center is going to do the installation for us if it works in their scheduld. If not we will have to work with the City to get it done. Mr. Brown stated that it will be about \$3300.00 for the archway at Shellmar Park.

Mr. Brown stated that 68% of our funds that are unencumbered. Mr. Brown stated that Arbor Day is covered & Shellmar Park and the only that is not covered is if we do anything with trees this fall or this Spring.

OLD BUSINESS

Tree City 2022

Ms. Clarkson stated that she has reached out to all of our partners and have also made sure that we are reversed with Knox Area Transit, with the transportation department at MVNU and caterers. All places are reserved and we need to make a new time line. The biggest things that we are going to need to do is make sure who our pool of volunteers are, are script is done and fine tune the full tour its self. She would like to start having meetings late this summer to touch base to reorganize and meet regularly starting in September.

Ms. Clark asked Mr. Brown if he was going to order saplings to give out and are the books that we were going to give out in storage. Mr. Brown stated that likes the idea of giving out saplings and the last he know the books were in the Clock house. Ms. Clarkson stated that she will let him take care of the saplings. Ms. Clarkson stated that she will follow up with Mark Fritz about the books.

Mr. Brown stated that he would like to set up a time to meet with Mr. Fritz. Ms Clarkson said that we are on their calendar. Ms. Clarkson stated that she would set up a meeting for April with the committee members and Mark Fritz.

Mr. Ball stated that the road around the middle of the lake will be completed this year.

Public Square

Mr. Brown stated that the tree removal day on the Public Square went very well and he talked to the Mayor and he has not had a lot of negative feed back. Ms. Clarkson mentioned the Letter to the Editor in the Mount Vernon News which was negative.

Mike Pryjda's cousin used a drone and flew it around the Public Square filming them taking down the trees and other things. The Mayor had talked to the gentleman about getting a copy of the footage so he can use it as part of a timeline he is working on of before, during and after for people to see what we did.

Mr. Brown talked to Mr. Wade about getting some trees put on the Public Square this spring.

Mr. Wade showed pictures of trees that we could put on the square, they are Bosk Elm, Scarlet Oak, and a Ohio Buckeye Tree. Mr. Brown stated after the meeting Mr. Wade, Kate Burley and himself will walk the square and decide where to plant the trees.

Arbor Day/Dave Carpenter Dedication

Arbor Day is April 30, 2021 at 2:30 PM at East School. They are going to do an all school assembly in the front lawn. Bill Seder is going to read the Giving Tree and the Mayor will then read his Proclamation. Wendy's has donated a frosty for every student in the building and one combo meal for every class room in the building. The teachers are prompting the students to do projects and rewards them with the meal. Mr. Brown talked to Rick Shaffer, Grounds Superintendent for the schools and he said other than some fiber optic cables that run across there he did not think there was a problem. Mr. Brown spoke to Kathy Whitaker, the principal and she did not have a problem with planting trees in the tree lawn. Mr. Brown stated that they are doing the tree dedication for Dave Carpenter the same day at Riverview Park at 1:00 PM. There will be a small ceremony, the Mayor will speak and there will be a tree dedication.

The trees that East School will be receiving are: 2 Maple trees 1 Oak Street will be planted in the front of the school. The Oak tree will be planted on the west side of the front lawn. The 2 Maple trees will be in between the maples that are in the front now.

TCP 2021

Ms. Clarkson stated that Cheryl with Wade and Gatton had asked for flag placement for the last few trees so she forwarded the request. Mr. Wade stated that they have a half a day left to be done and are waiting for the Japanese Maple trees to come in. TCP will be done once those trees come in. Ms. Clarkson stated that at 201 E. Gambier Street across the street is an empty lot where an old house burned down about 8 years ago and the neighbor across the street asked if trees could be planted in the empty tree lawn area. Kate said yes we could plant there and Colleen will get a hold of the owner for permission. Ms. Clarkson stated to Mr. Ball that there is a interest of trees to be planted on Longitude Drive and stated that she received a call from a property owner wondering what was going on behind her house. Mr. Ball stated that a neighbor behind them is conducting an Agricultural endeavor and they are not getting along with the Longitude and Latitude owners. The people at

Longitude and Latitude are putting in fences and shrubbery, Lacie Blankenhorn has been involved with this situation.

Mr. Brown stated that Ms. Burley has come up with a list of trees for TCP planting. Mr. Brown stated that the list will vary year to year. Shawn Bleiler is going to post the list on the City's web site and attach it to the TCP application.

Quinton Platt was introduced to the commission. Mr. Brown stated that Quinton is interested in Bee City and would also like to get him introduced to the TCP program. Ms. Clarkson would like Quinton to follow her around this summer when they look at areas.

Ms. Clarkson asked if we have people lined up to water trees. Ms. Burley is trying to figure this situation out and stated that we have reached out to TD Landscaping to see if they are interested in watering the trees. She stated that Tom Hinkle is going to reach out to other landscaper's also.

Mr. Brown stated that we need to pick a day in April to hang water bags. Ms. Burley stated that the homeowners need reminded how to fill the bag. Mr. Brown stated that when the notification is sent out about when the bags will be delivered there is a U TUBE video that shows how to fill the bags and if they want personalized instructions we can deliver them with the bags.

NEW BUSINESS

Bee City

Mr. Brown stated that we do not have anyone to talk about Bee City, so we will talk about it next month.

Shellmar Park

Mr. Brown stated that we talked briefly about the Gateway going in there and will talk about it next month. He has some trees in mind to put at the park.

Main Street Mount Vernon

Milkweed

Mr. Brown stated that when the Knox County Career Center returns to school next week, John Campbell had stated they would put the milkweed seeds in the dirt. They have been storing them in the refrigerator.

Mr. Brown stated that on the agenda for next month will be Bee City, Shellmar Park, Main Street Mount Vernon and Milkweed.

ADJOURN

Ms. Burley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Clarkson seconded the motion. AIF, motion carries.