

Thursday, August 5, 2021

Tree Board Minutes for August 5, 2021

The August meeting was called to order - Mike Conway

Mike Conway, Jeff DiGiovanni, Kathleen Laurin and Sally Soderlund were in person. Sarah Froelich attended remotely.

June Minutes ~ Sally Soderlund

Sally read the minutes, Mike thanked Sally for them. The minutes were approved.

Treasury ~ Kathleen Laurin reported

General Fund Balance (from the city of Park Hills budget)

\$8,000.00

Reserve Fund Balance

\$951.44

Mike's request to carry over the General Fund surplus of \$1524.47 to our Reserve Fund was denied.

Spring Seedling Program Results ~ Mike Conway for Joe Daugherty
Joe has tried to order the seedlings for this program to insure a nice selection. They are not yet available.

Plant-A-Tree Program Update ~ Mike Conway for Pat Flannery
Baetens was able to plant a replacement tree for a resident that was dissatisfied with a tree from this program.

Street-A-Year Program ~ Sarah Froelich, Jeff DiGiovanni, Mike Conway

Members had been asked to identify Park Hills streets to take part in the Street-A-Year program.

South Arlington, Lawton and St. James were discussed. Questions were raised regarding tree size and type, placement in tight areas and responsibility for care and ultimately, removal. Mike stated that Urban Canopy, our arborist/consultant connection would be able to make suggestions for size, type and feasibility. Care and removal are the homeowners' responsibility.

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Social Media ~ Natalie

Grant Update ~ Jeff DiGiovanni

Jeff is looking into grants. Invasive plant grants and subsidized planting grants, including, possibly revisiting the Landscape Scale Restoration grant are being investigated.

As the grants are identified plans will be developed. Matching money, the cost, timeline and outcomes will be explored and presented to City Council accordingly.

The possibility of learning from and working with similar sized Northern Kentucky communities was discussed.* Fort Wright and Fort Thomas were mentioned. Perhaps our neighboring communities have identified grants that we could also apply for; could we work together to raise matching funds for larger grants?

Communications Update and Tree Tips

Park Hills Website ~ Sarah Froelich, Mike Conway

Mike thanked Sarah for her work on these. Sarah wondered if the Tree Board's profile in the city would be enhanced if the Tree Tips and other Tree Board information were ongoing newsfeeds and live; linked to information through a button on the city's webpage.

Mike presented a Tree Tips logo that featured an arm holding a tree.

*President Mike Conway would like a regular meeting to take place with other Northern Kentucky cities regarding our local Tree Canopy. The Kentucky Department of Forestry, Kenton County Extension Office and local utility companies might be invited to share ideas and insights.

Adjournment-Attendees agreed