

Thursday, April 7, 2022

Tree Board Minutes for April 7, 2022

The April meeting was called to order - Mike Conway

Mike Conway, Joe Daugherty, Jeff DiGiovanni, Kathleen Laurin, Natalie Schulte, Sally Soderlund

Minutes ~ Sally Soderlund

The minutes from our last meeting have already been approved and posted on the Park Hills website.

Treasury ~ Kathleen Laurin reported

General Fund Balance (from the city of Park Hills budget) \$
\$7,349.90

Reserve Fund Balance
\$1201.83

The **Arboretum On Wheels** van will cost \$150.00

Spring Seedling Program ~ Joe Daugherty

The Spring Seedling Program will take place on April 30, 2022 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in Trolley Park. Available Tree Board members will be needed.

Joe has ordered:

Shortleaf Pine (50)

Willow Oak (50)

Flowering Dogwood (50)

Kentucky Coffeetree (50)

Offering saplings instead of seedlings had been discussed, Joe was unable to order saplings because he wanted a consensus from the tree board members (and didn't receive it) to inform his order.

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The **Arboretum On Wheels** Van will also be in Park Hills from 10 a.m.-12 a.m. on April 30th. It is a mobile educational program that will enhance our Spring Seedling Program and add an educational element to the day for children and adults.

Natalie will handle the information technology for the event, Mike will order a banner to advertise it and we will also reuse the signs that we have used previously for the giveaway.

Plant Just One Tree Program Update ~ Mike Conway

The trees for the Plant Just One Tree program will be supplied by Baeten's. This was decided after a small order was made from a Tennessee nursery for comparison over the winter. It proved cost effective but the logistics and storage were a slight problem.

The Plant Just One Tree trees from Baeten's will be one year older than the Tennessee trees and the nursery is local. Baeten's will also extend our seasonal discount to year long.

Strong tree possibilities to be ordered are White or Pin Oak, Dogwood, Autumn Blaze Maple.

We will order the trees in November to be delivered in March. This will allow us to maximize our annual budget.

Natalie will help with Marketing and Communications.

We will have website sign up.

Landmark Tree Ordinance ~ All

Joe Daugherty's proposal was read, Joe volunteered to be the primary contact person for residents desiring the removal of their living yard trees 4" or more in diameter. The original ordinance proposal included tree diameter and penalty for removal based on size. The homeowner would pay extra for a wider tree.

Mike proffered that the Tree Board's manner should be positive and helpful not negative and discordant.

Natalie shared that an overreaching proposal would not be appreciated by private landowners.

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Sally questioned if the ordinance might challenge disadvantaged residents. Joe reiterated that he would counsel the homeowners on their options in a positive manner.

Discussion moved toward a tree ordinance that would effect Developers, Utility workers and arborists hired for removal of large live trees.

Joe is going to draft an ordinance proposal aimed at developers and professionals but he is most interested in being contacted by homeowners seeking advice before they remove a living large tree.

A Park Hills website notice to residents was suggested. It would include a positive tone informing residents of the opportunity for free advice from Joe.

Grant Update ~ Jeff DiGiovanni

Jeff reported that we are probably not receiving a grant from L, G & E.

He is happy that he has a template from this effort to use for further grants. Natalie shared a possible opportunity with him.

Jeff will apply for this \$2,000.00 Points of Light Grant. It supports young people making a difference in their community through volunteer work. Our Audubon Forest development plan includes student volunteers.

Audubon Forest ~ Mike, Joe (Pam Spoor in absentia)

The coordination of the ongoing development of Audubon Forest was discussed. Sycamores, Shagbark Hickory, Wild Cherry, Spice Bush and Buckeye were requested by the planning committee to be planted in the Forest. Their planting will correspond with their place on the hillside and their projected mature height. The previous removal of honeysuckle and the development of trails will be enriched with thoughtful placement of these native trees.

The implementation of the plan and development of the Forest has been a joint effort by the Tree Board, City Council and volunteers (including local high school students). The Tree Board will supply 3 each of the requested tree species.

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Adjournment-Attendees agreed