

URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

CITY OF WHITEWATER

MINUTES OF URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

March 27, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. by Chair Tiiu Gray-Fow. MEMBERS PRESENT: McCulloch, Crone, Stone, Gray-Fow, Knedler. MEMBERS ABSENT: Craggs, Coburn. CITY STAFF PRESENT: Chuck Nass. CITIZENS IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Ehrenberg, Roy Nosek.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA. It was moved by Stone and seconded by McCulloch to approve the agenda (as amended). AYES: McCulloch, Crone, Stone, Gray-Fow, Knedler. NOES: None. ABSENT: Coburn, Craggs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. It was moved by Crone and seconded by McCulloch to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2012 meeting *reflecting Crone's rewording of item #15 striking "write-up of enhanced criteria for tree guard installation and removal that can be added to the back of the UF Management Standards as recommended guidelines" and replacing it with "discussion of criteria for tree guard installation and removal."* Ayes: McCulloch, Crone, Stone, Gray-Fow, Knedler. Noes: None. Absernt: Coburn, Craggs.

Moved by McCulloch and seconded by Knedler to add a clarification from Brian Neumeister to his report (item #14) on the removal of trees on North Prince Street as a separate attachment to the minutes. AYES: McCulloch, Crone, Stone, Gray-Fow, Knedler. NOES: None. ABSENT: Coburn, Craggs.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Roy Nosek spoke to tree guards across from City Hall as well as trees on Park Street.

PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMISSION REPORT: None.

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD REPORT: Brandon Knedler

- 1) Eric Tabaka received his Eagle Scout project award for work at the Effigy Mounds.
- 2) There is a Lakes Management Proposal from chemical to biological treatment on Trippe Lake, chemical on Cravath Lake.

UPDATE ON MILWAUKEE STREET CONSTRUCTION:

Tree Loss: Thirteen trees may be lost. Hopefully, *the rest can be saved, including some of the thirteen. Terrace trees will be protected according to the Urban Forestry Management Plan Terrace Tree Protection Standards. Prior to construction, city staff will wrap trees and build a wood barrier around each tree.*

City Forester will attend preconstruction conferences which will include on the agendas discussion of specific city tree protection requirements. This will include review of trees to be protected as well as various methods of tree protection as outlined in the Standards.

Citizen Roy Nosek expressed concern over tree loss resulting from past street construction projects. Chuck Nass indicated that the City will be in charge of this issue. It was suggested that Dr. Nosek may present some photographic examples of desirable tree protection procedures to the City Forester to be shared with contractors at the meetings. Nass accepted.

Plantings: Per City Council direction, perennial plantings will occur in each of the three islands to be installed. An attempt will be made to use appropriate native plantings.

BIRD CITY: Karen McCulloch

McCulloch reported that she needs documentation for criteria for the application. Deborah Blackwell of Studio 54 will do educational information, bird houses building. Consensus of Board to invite an ornithologist to speak to the Urban Forestry Commission. Will discuss further at next meeting.

TREE CUTS/PRUNING;

Prince Street – Utilities will be underground on west side 16 trees: Ash, Sugar Maples, Crabs will be damaged. Some were planted under wires; street will be widened 3'. University will be funding utilities. 33 trees will be replanted on west side. 21 trees will be replanted on east side. 5 X 6 areas. Total of 54 trees will be planted. Citizens Nosek and Ehrenberg supported saving some of the trees. Others believed it was too late.

Discussion ensued re: future incidents of tree losses due to construction. The point was made that often the UFC has input too late to affect the outcome. The City Forester suggested that the UFC be notified whenever Public Meetings are scheduled for street, or other public construction, that could impact trees. At that stage, changes in design specifications, utility placements, etc. are still possible. It was agreed that the City Forester would see to it that all UFC members would automatically receive such Public Meeting notices in a timely manner. Then, representatives from the Committee can attend.

With the warm weather, pruning will cease.

Presently, the city is concentrating on the southwest quadrant.

Stump removal continues.

Future Agendas:

a. Consideration of desirable tree species, possible native tree recommendations. It was noted that a list of native trees for public use could be posted on the website. Citizens could plant them on private property. The list will be provided for UFC members.

b. Bird City

- c. Discuss date for meeting with the Design Committee.
- d. Nass to report on enforcement provisions that exist to ensure contractors' compliance in following Whitewater's Tree Protection Standards during street construction.

ADJOURNMENT. It was moved by McCulloch and seconded by Knedler to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: McCulloch, Crone, Stone, Gray Fow. NOES: None. ABSENT: Coburn, Craggs. Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Stone, Secretary