

City of Whitewater Urban Forestry Commission
April 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 4:35 pm

Roll Call: Rose Mary Leaver, Jerry Schoen, Karen Coburn, Karen McCulloch, Nick Alt, Sherry Stanek. Absent: Anne Zarinnia, Brandon Knedler

Staff: Andy Beckman

Approval of Agenda: McCulloch made a motion to amend agenda to remove discussion of Meadowsweet Park, Leaver 2nd, unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes: Leaver made a motion to approve March 2017 minutes, Coburn 2nd, unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Knedler absent, but Coburn reported \$63 in earnings from the sale of honey.

Staff Report: Most of the trees ordered for planting in 2017 have arrived and are stored at the city garage in pea gravel. Still waiting for some from Johnson's Nursery. There is no construction scheduled for 2017. Two oak trees will be planted at Clay Street Nature Park. Coburn asked on behalf of resident Richard Ehrenberg if the dead ash tree on the terrace in front of his house could be left standing or at least 20 to 30 feet of it so that he can plant vines on it. Beckman said that this would be a huge liability for the city both from the standpoint of it falling into the street over time and also falling onto the Ehrenberg's property and over the sidewalk. He also pointed out that the purpose of the terrace is to host canopy trees and that a new tree should be planted there. Leaver asked Beckman about a tree at Starin Park that has a collar on it that should be removed and also pointed out that a tree at 204 Esterly has been broken and needs to be replaced. Beckman was aware of the tree on Esterly saying that a larger tree had fallen on it last year and started the damage. The tree will be replaced. Also, Arbor Day will be celebrated by planting an oak tree in Tiiu Gray-Fow's honor on May 3rd at 11 am at Cravath Lakefront Park and all UFC members who are available are asked to attend.

Bird City/Bird Talk: Coburn passed out copies of the wonderful article that McCulloch has written from the standpoint of a Chimney Swift that is currently on the Whitewater Banner. Well done!! IMBD Planning took much of the meeting as possibilities were discussed for our August 8th event to be held in the Cravath Community Building during the time of the City Market. Schoen raised concern that the community building might be too far away from the Depot where the Market will be held this year. Stanek proposed painting bird footprints from the Depot to the community building and Coburn suggested coupons be handed out to kids at the Market that can be redeemed for prizes at the event. Alt suggested that the coupons be 'worm coupons' that could be redeemed for gummy worms at the event? Stanek will make a snowy owl with the face cut out so that event goers can have their picture taken as a snowy owl. Wes Enterline is

working with intern Elizabeth to find out what birds migrate through Walton Oaks Park and will develop some kind of display featuring those birds and when they come through. Ginny Coburn will be doing something with the Audobon zip code bird finder which tells you what plants attract which birds to your area. Ann Coburn may have the girl scouts to help shepherd people around and to help kids who want to have their wingspans measured and so on. Studio 84 will be doing a bird construction project. Kim Adams & Angie Alesci may have an exhibit about birds at Walton Oaks Park. Other ideas still being considered are a mural that can travel around town, an activity table with coloring and bird puzzles, a CD of bird song that can be playing in the hallway as people enter, possible hummingbird feeder projects for kids to take with them. Leaver mentioned migratory maps. Alt suggested a "Name That Invasive" game. Many, many ideas were shared and it was a very good brainstorming session. Coburn asked that all keep these things in mind as we go about our lives and keep considering what might be good to contribute to a successful event on August 8, 2017.

Tree City/Tree Talk: Saturday April 29th will be our next Walton Oaks workday. Stanek will be out of town, McCulloch is unavailable, but Coburn, Alt, Leaver and Schoen will be there. Hopefully as we continue to work bit by bit we will get ahead of the invasives there over time.

Plan Board: No report, Board didn't meet.

Parks Board: No report.

Announcements: None

Adjournment: Leaver moved to adjourn, Alt 2nd, unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 22, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Stanek, Secretary