

CITY OF WHITEWATER  
3rd URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, May 11, 2010 - 4:00 p.m.  
Cravath lakefront room - 2nd floor, city municipal building  
312 W. Whitewater St., Whitewater, WI 53190

DRAFT - MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:** Meeting called to order by chair - Tiu Gray-Fow. Members present- Peter Disley, Richard Ehrenberg, Tiu Gray-Fow, Tom Miller, Prudence Negley, Beverly Stone. Members absent- Wyatt Welter. Staff Present- Chuck Nass. Prudence Negley was welcomed as a new member, replacing David Stone as the representative from the Park and Recreation Board.
2. **MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:** MOTION by Beverly Stone and seconded by Peter Disley to approve minutes with spelling corrections, some word changes and adding reference to Chuck Nass regarding the motion about limiting planting of small trees. Motion passed unanimously with Prudence Negley abstaining because of not being a member at the last mtg. Secretary will send Negley copies of the minutes from the first two meetings.
3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None
4. **PLAN AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW REPORT BY Tom Miller:** Walmart will be complying with a requirement that 20% of the parking space be allocated to green space. Chuck Nass will be reviewing the plans when available, and will notify us so we can also look at the plans. The P&ARB is revising their landscaping requirements. Tom Miller or Chuck Nass will forward copies to us for our review. A request was expressed that we be able to review any upcoming landscape plans being reviewed by the P&ARB. Chuck Nass will investigate this option for us. We can hold special meetings in order to quickly facilitate a response to the P&ARB if we feel a need to do so.
5. **PARK AND RECREATIONAL BOARD REPORT** by Negley and Ehrenberg. The motion regarding limiting the planting of small trees was briefly looked at by the P&RB. No action was taken. The P&RB will basically review long-term policy decisions forwarded to them.
6. **SPRING PLANTING PLAN:** Ehrenberg handed out a listing of nine points for discussion regarding an annual planting plan, with the hope that points 4 - 9 could be applied to this spring. Chuck Nass said that 90% of this spring planting is completed.  
  
MOTION by Beverly Stone, seconded by Peter Disley that the discussion of the nine points be tabled for discussion at our June meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
7. **FORESTRY GUIDE AND SPECIFICATIONS MANUAL:** There was a consensus that this be tabled for a future mtg. It was mentioned that this manual, the Terrace Tree Protection document, an annual planting plan and parts from city statutes need to be folded into one Urban Forestry Management Plan.
8. **NATURAL LAWNS:** It was decided by consensus that we recognize two issues in the motion made by the Common Council requesting us to write regulations for "natural lawns". The first is that of expanding the existing ordinance on "weeds and grass" chapter 7.22 and the second issue is that of "natural / native landscaping" which focuses on gardening and landscaping with native Wisconsin plants and plant communities and with less emphasis on traditional lawn grass and exotic (non-native) plantings.

9. EMERALD ASH BORER: Nass reported that he is attending workshops which talk about this impending devastation to our ash trees. and he estimated we could lose around 500 public trees with additional ones being lost on private property. He stated that the cost to chemically treat trees ranges from \$200 to \$300 per tree, and that there is no guarantee for any existing chemical. He indicated Appleton, WI, plans to simply cut down all their ash trees rather than wait for them to succumb to the disease. We all agreed that will not be our approach. Nass will have a plan for action by August and maybe sooner. At this time he did not feel he needed any help from the commission members to work on this issue.

10. STAFF REPORT: Nass reported that the Arbor day observance on May 6th, was a "good day". It was the 16th year the Tree City USA award was given to the city. Two scarlet oaks and one white oak was planted in Starin Park. A 4th grade educational program took place. Two dead trees on Whitewater St., and the Chinese elm beside the old stone stable (the roots of which were probably damaged by the construction work on the stone stable) will be cut down, the latter having a cathedral elm planted in its place. A chokecherry at the corner of Dann st. and E. Milwaukee st. will be cut down because of a heavy infestation of black knot.

11. ADJOURNED at 5:30 p.m. with a motion by Beverly Stone and a second by Prudence Negley. Motion passed unanimously.

Completed by the secretary,  
Richard Ehrenberg  
5-14-10

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Ehrenberg". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name and date.

## ANNUAL PLANTING PLAN & PLANTING REQUIREMENTS.

1. The City shall prepare a yearly planting plan the fall before the spring planting to facilitate budgeting and ordering needs.
2. The planting plan shall include specific sites, noting whether large or small trees are appropriate. Small trees shall be used where overhead utilities exist and their mature height will be compatible to the clearance requirements. Large trees shall be used everywhere else. All tree varieties to be used shall be submitted for approval by the Urban Forestry Comm. and open to public review.
3. The plan shall be based on a quadrant planting strategy thereby assuring an orderly and effective result. Only property owner's requests, replacement of the previous year's failed plantings, and special circumstances (new subdivision, park improvements etc.) shall take precedent over this format.
4. Trees shall be properly spaced (30'-35' apart) and their variety shall be balanced to prevent the problems of monoculture planting.
5. Sugar maples shall not be planted on heavily salted main thoroughfares.
6. Digger's Hotline clearance shall be secured for all plantings sites to allow the use of mechanical planting aids (tractor and auger) and to insure maximum safety and efficiency while also providing better holes for planting.
7. Bare root trees shall be stored in regularly water pea gravel beds until planted with the knowledge that this technique will allow the planting to be conducted throughout the summer and early fall if circumstances necessitate or such an extended planting period would be advantageous to staffing demands. Also, specific varieties of trees whose viability require it shall be "sweated" before planted.
8. All new trees shall be wood chip mulched and protected with plastic boots. Vandal prone trees shall be protected with sturdy tree guards installed the day they are planted. These guards shall remain in place in a well-maintained condition until the protected tree is hearty enough to resist breakage.
9. New trees shall be watered as part of the planting regimen the day they are planted and then regularly for the first two years after planting, utilizing techniques such as pressurized watering spikes, watering bags and other means to increase efficiency and decrease manpower needs.