

Greenscape Commission Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 15, 2013  
Hornet Park Community Center, Room D

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dave Miller at 6:00pm

Members Present: Beth Berg, Jacki Brown, Lynn Huff, Tim Latimer and Dave Miller.

Guests: JoEllen Castetter

The city has been recognized as a 2012 Tree City USA. This is the eighth year Beech Grove has been awarded the designation. Dave Miller reported a new Tree City USA flag is needed for Centennial Park. This year's flag should be available if we partner with the city schools again. There should be other flags from prior years if they can be located.

Miller will contact Mr. Chris Kaufman regarding participation in the 2013 Arbor Day tree planting. BGHS science teachers have expressed an interest in partnering again for this year's event. The commission will work with their schedule for setting a date.

Commission members set 10:00am Saturday, May 18th as the date and time for inspecting trees at the roundabout at 17th, Albany and Churchman. Dave shared that members will need to wear ANSI class 2 safety vests for working in the right-of-way. He will contact Brad Meriwether about using vests from the Public Works Department.

Inspection of ash trees on city properties will be done at the end of May/first of June with a specific date to be set later. Dave will provide information for members on what to look for to identify Emerald Ash Borer infestation. If infestation is found, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources will be notified and they will conduct their own inspection and certify their findings.

JoEllen had several questions for the commission.

What is actually measured for the right-of-way planting strip? The soil/grass area, which is typically between the street and sidewalk. No tree can be planted if the width is less than 4 feet.

Who takes care of the tree once it is planted? The city is responsible for the tree.

What if someone doesn't want a tree in their right-of-way? The city wouldn't plant a tree where a citizen doesn't want one.

Who is responsible for trimming trees that affect visibility? Trees planted in the right-of-way or on city property are the city's responsibility. Trees planted on private property are the property owner's responsibility.

Does the city have a spraying routine for trees? No.

Who is responsible for maintaining trees in the utility easement on the west side of 9th Avenue (Carrington area)? The property owner has the responsibility. The utility company will only keep branches out of the utility lines.

Will chestnut trees survive here? Some will, but they don't do well with our heavy clay soil. There are number of chestnut trees growing around Stop 11 and west of Bluff Road, where there are sandy hills.

Jacki Brown reminded everyone of the Beautify Beech Grove Committee's Family Fun Walk on Saturday, May 11th. The walk begins at 9:00am in Sarah T. Bolton Park and route will end back in the park. The committee is also working on having a Farmer's Market for the summer, outside the Flea Market at Churchman Hill Plaza.

Beth Berg reported the Lick Creek Streambank Stabilization Project has been awarded and the work should be completed by June 28th.

Tim Latimer reported the Promoters Club Clean Beech Grove Day was coming up on Saturday, April 20th. They will meet at 7:30am on 4th and Main to clean the alleys on both sides of Main Street.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Berg  
Secretary, Beech Grove Greenscape Commission