

Greenscape Commission Meeting  
January 18, 2011, 6:00pm  
Hornet Park Community Center, Room D

Members present: Dave Miller, Tim Latimer, Lynn Huff, Beth Berg. Guest: Bud Templin

Tim Latimer nominated Dave Miller for Chairman of the commission and Beth Berg for Secretary, seconded by Lynn Huff. All agreed.

Miller outlined projects for 2011:

- Update commission web pages, to include posting minutes from the September – November meetings, post the meeting dates for 2011, remove the current information on the tree inventory and post the Inventory Summary Report and pertinent findings, replace appointment dates for members with the dates of term expiration, post new photos of trees and landscapes in the city. Miller also praised the Public Works web pages that feature a lot of good and useful information for the community.
- Arbor Day planting. The commission needs to set a date and location for the ceremony. Arbor Day is officially the last Friday in April, but a Saturday would allow for more people to attend. One of the city parks is again the best location for new trees to be planted. The city will purchase the tree and prepare the planting site. A native tree would be the best choice for species. The beech tree Parks Board member Tim Lentz has offered to donate could be part of the event as well, depending on where the trees will be located. Tom Hannan will decide the best locations for these trees.
- Meet with Public Works Director Brad Meriwether and Tom Hannan to discuss street tree maintenance goals for the year, and the commission could assist. Available funding for contract work and consideration of what work can be done by city crews will determine the scope of the maintenance plan.
- Community Clean-Up Day in the Parks. This will again be a joint effort with the Parks Board and civic groups in the Community. The Parks Board will set the date and tasks to be accomplished, with input from Hannan.
- Funding, which have to come from donations or grants.
- Amend the list of approved and prohibited trees for permit planting. Ash trees will continue to be prohibited due to the state infestation of ash tree borers, and all Maple species and Bradford Pears will be prohibited based on results of the tree inventory. Miller is currently working on the lists, with an emphasis on native trees.

Also discussed was utilizing the free TreeAid software received from the state to maintain our inventory database, utilizing other free software to determine the dollar amount of our city trees value and benefits, and posting data for Beech Grove prepared by the state in their SUSI report. The TreeAid software would be useful and has been installed on Tom Hannan's city computer. However, the data for each of the 1092 city trees will have to be entered manually.

Beth Berg reported on the January Parks Board meeting. Hannan is concerned about the continued erosion of the eastside of the creek bank on the west side of Sarah Bolton Park. The row of burning bushes is in danger of falling into the creek. Parks Board President Ed Marks is contacting the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to inquire about an inspection of the creek and possible recommendations for stabilizing the area.

Berg will also be preparing a grant proposal for the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society. This would

be a small grant, in the neighborhood of \$500, with no matching funds required. The monies would be used to purchase and plant native wildflowers and other plants in the Natural Area of Sarah Bolton Park.

The next meeting of the commission will be Tuesday, February 21, 6:00pm at the Hornet Park Community Center. The meeting is moved from Monday due to the President's Day Holiday.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Berg, Greenscape Commission Secretary