

Greenscape Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 21, 2014
Hornet Park Community Center, Room O

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

Members Present: Dave Miller, Beth Berg, Brenda Wilson and Tim Latimer.

Tim Latimer was unanimously elected to serve as Chairman. Beth Berg was unanimously elected to serve as Secretary.

Miller shared plans for a Living Sanctuary Garden to be installed on the grounds of the Benedictine Center with a grant from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIBI). The garden will feature native plants, flowers, grasses, trees, benches and ADA compliant pathways. KIBI will assist with providing plants, planting and overseeing the garden for three years. Joseph Jarzen, Community Engagement Coordinator for KIBI, will be attending our February meeting to discuss the project and answer questions about any assistance the organization can provide for the City of Beech Grove.

Commission members continue to review a list of grant opportunities put together by Brenda Wilson and determine if any are viable options for the community.

Miller shared that trees already removed from Main Street were replanted at Central Elementary School and that two Silver Maples in poor condition were taken down at that property. There are four trees (at 2nd, 5th, 8th and 11th Avenues) that are planted within 10 feet of fire hydrants, which is a violation of City Ordinance. And one tree at 4th Avenue which was moved, but still in conflict with electric lines.

Berg noted the Main Street trees need to be added to the City's Tree Inventory this spring. Also this year the Commission should review the inventory data and analyze species diversity, taking into account the new plantings and removals over the past five years.

Miller suggested that residents should inspect trees on their property for limb damage from the hard winter weather. This should be done before trees leaf out. Personal safety is very important and when determining if a homeowner can remove limbs themselves or should hire a tree service professional, a good rule of thumb is, "if your feet have to leave the ground to use a chain saw, call a professional."

Miller also stated Arbor Day in Indiana this year is Friday, April 25, but we can plan the City's event for anytime that is appropriate for tree planting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 6:00pm at the Hornet Park Community Center.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Berg, Secretary, Beech Grove Greenscape Commission