

Greenscape Commission Meeting  
February 16, 2010, 6:00pm  
Hornet Park Community Center, Room B

Members present: Dave Miller, Brian Clayton, Tim Latimer, Beth Berg, and Lynn Huff.

Dave Miller requested all members meet at the South Grove Park Shelter at 10:00am on Saturday, March 13 to inventory trees there and also he will give a lesson on proper pruning technique. Everyone should bring gloves and their inventory supplies. This should take no longer than two hours.

The Indiana Urban Forestry Council is asking tree boards and commissions across the state to submit electronic copies of their logo for inclusion in a brochure they are preparing. Beech Grove does not currently have a logo and there was a discussion on having a contest to solicit ideas, open to students and others in the community. Our commission would make the final selection. The logo should incorporate a tree or tree branches as well as the name of the commission. Members were asked to bring ideas for the contest to the next meeting.

Lynn Huff asked if the commission has a Mission Statement. We do not, but it was decided we should develop one. Beth Berg read the Parks Board Mission Statement. Everyone will do some research before the next meeting and come with suggestions to share.

Huff reviewed suggestions for the Clean-Up Day in the Parks Day we are planning with the Parks Board. Saturday, April 10 is the date being considered for the event. Tim Latimer would like to have members of the Beech Grove High School Junior Honor Society participate, and there was a discussion on whether students under the age of 18 would need to have permission slips or waivers signed by their parents. It was agreed that student participants should be limited to performing tasks that would minimize risks. Huff also suggested obtaining posters from the Arbor Day Foundation that promote trees and tree identification for placement in the parks, as an educational and promotional tool for the public. Vandalism in the parks is a concern and a way to protect them needs to be considered.

Brian Clayton is working with the Boy Scouts to set a date for this year's Arbor Day celebration and is looking at holding the event before school gets out for the summer. The weekend after Mother's Day is a possibility. Huff reminded the commission that Dammon's Nursery will donate one tree for the Arbor Day planting, they just need a letter from the Mayor's office on city letterhead. That would allow for two trees to be planted, one for each Beech Grove boy Scout troop. The Mayor will need to be notified when a date is set so a Proclamation can be prepared and presented to the Boy Scouts.

Miller contacted Michael Krosschell (*crow shell*), the Landscape Architect for the Schneider Corporation, regarding the landscape plan for the Main Street Project. Krosschell will share that plan at a later date.

Beth Berg shared that she verified the deadlines for completion of our tree inventory. Our end date is June 30, 2010. No expenses or match can be counted toward the grant after that. Our final report, which will include the inventories raw data and executive summary, should be submitted to the state by July 30, 2010. The commission also received approval to amend our proposal as we were not able to utilize the city's GIS website for mapping of city trees.

Berg also shared that Pam Louks, Community and Urban Forestry Coordinator for the Indiana Department of natural Resources, would like to attend one of our meetings and share the SUSI data for

Beech Grove which consisted of a sample street tree inventory and functional/economic analysis. There is also a National Tree Benefit Calculator available online that allows users to estimate the benefits of street trees in dollar amounts. Using this web tool on our completed inventory would be a good way to help residents understand the value of trees in the community. (This calculator looks at energy savings, storm water run-off interception, property values, air quality benefits, and carbon dioxide reduction. [www.treebenefits.com/calculator](http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator).)

Aren Dottenwhy of Davey Tree Resources contacted Berg and is interested in working with the commission on assessing trees identified as high-risk, i.e. dead or dying or poor condition. She will be invited to a future meeting to discuss contracting for their services. The expense will be covered by our grant funding.

The next meeting of the commission will be Monday, March 15, 6:00pm at the Hornet Park Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Berg  
Greenscape Commission Secretary