

Greenscape Commission Meeting
March 19, 2012 6:00pm
Hornet Park Community Center, Room D

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

Guest: Eric Brown

Clean Up Day in the Parks is confirmed for Saturday, April 21st as part of the Promoters Club Clean Up Beech Grove Day. This will be a joint effort of the Promoters Club, Parks, and Greenscape Commission. We will plan for volunteers to meet at 10:00am in one of the city parks. Beth Berg confirmed that Tom Hannan is working on a list of tasks for volunteers. Tim Latimer will be contacting local organizations that have adopted areas around the city for clean-up and also contact Tim Showalter to advertise the event on the BGTV Bulletin Board. Dave Miller will contact Mike Pence for donation of gloves from IPL, write an article about the event for the local newspapers, and get with Tom Hannan about the work that can be done in the parks. JE Brown Electric (Jacki and Eric Brown)will donate four cases of water. Lynn Huff will make flyers.

Berg shared a new General Ordinance Mayor Buckley had drawn up which incorporates the language of Special Ordinance No. 8, 2005, adopted in 2005. As a general ordinance, it can be made part of the City's Code of Ordinances. It will be presented to the City Council for consideration in March or April.

After last month's discussion on the matter of maintenance for Emerson Avenue (Subway to Churchman) and the area of the round-a-bout, Miller sent a recommendation to the Mayor that the specs for the bid process include the following. 1) That the selected firm have an "ISA Certified Arborist" on staff and available for consultation by the City or Greenscape Commission. 2) The selected firm be licensed by the "Office of the Indiana State Chemist" and employ Certified Chemical Applicators for pesticide and fertilization applications. 3) The selected firm employ and have available for consultation a professional horticulturist.

There was a discussion on the Mayor's request for assistance with an ordinance that would require tree service contractors to remove all debris created by their work on private property. The city will continue to pick up tree and shrubbery trimmings from work property owners perform themselves. Consensus was to submit the following as a suggested addition to the city ordinances:

"All persons cutting trees in the city, except property owners, must haul off all debris, limbs, stumps, or trunk branches, from all trees cut or trimmed."

Members also discussed Section 96.04 (D) in the city ordinances that states tree and shrubbery trimmings may be bundled and bundles should not exceed three feet in length. Bundled branches

and short branches pose a hazard to city workers feeding them through the wood chipper and it will also be suggested that this wording be changed. Berg will write up these recommendations for everyone to review before sending them to the Mayor.

Members also discussed the Mayor's request for assistance with developing a plan for cleaning up and maintaining vegetation along the banks of smaller streams in the city leading to the creeks and under bridges. The first priority is in the Edwards/Groveswood area.

Miller informed everyone he will be unable to attend the Tree Care Seminar for Certified Arborists on March 28th.

Berg gave an update from the Parks Board.

Brown reported that the Beech Grove Decorations Committee will now be known as the Beautify Beech Grove Committee. They will be meeting Saturday morning, March 24, at City Hall.

Huff presented two choices for a Greenscape Commission banner, from which members selected one. She has arranged for the banner to be donated, which is greatly appreciated. She also shared several letterhead templates for the commission.

The next meeting of the commission will be Monday, April 16, 6:00pm at the Hornet Park Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Berg, Greenscape Commission Secretary