

MINUTES  
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD  
NOVEMBER 5, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Dale Madden at 8:30 a.m. Other board members present were Tom Welborn, Craig Walker, Jenny Arthur, Daniel Steinhoff, Andrew Caylor, Robert Graves, Anna Toon, and Tracy Polite-Johnson.

Ex officio members present were Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; Lee Rumble, UT Ag Extension; and David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering; Diane Warwick, State Forestry Division; Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center; and Tim Hester, Parks and Recreation.

Visiting this month is Traci Hellwinckel with Trees Knoxville.

**Action Items for November**

- Approve October minutes.

**Education Report** by Craig Walker

- Craig and Dale reported that the Arbor Day Celebration will be held at the Skyline Park on November 16<sup>th</sup> @ 10.30 a.m. Several trees will be planted. The invitations have been sent. Dale will be doing the introduction of the Mayor who will be doing the proclamation and giving remarks. Dale will finalize agenda, speakers, send out reminders, and print program. Kasey will have copies made.
- Lee gave a good webinar presentation. There was not one scheduled for December, so Ben Nanny volunteered one of his AmeriCorps members to speak on invasive and native plants for the December 14<sup>th</sup> webinar.

**City Update** by Kasey Krouse

- The UF crew is currently catching up on work orders.
- 75% of the cycle pruning has been completed.
- Training prune is gearing up for the 2020-2021 season.
- 400 locations will be planted from December until March.
- Reminded everyone of the Arbor Day Conference which will begin during the week of November 16<sup>th</sup> and will run for several days.
- There was a pruning class during the week of October 26<sup>th</sup> with Trees Knoxville. Some of the Volunteer Foresters were given some advanced training on training prune.

**Trees Knoxville Report** by Tom Welborn

- Tom spoke with Councilman Tommy Smith about the status of the tree bank in the ordinance. He also spoke with him about the 202 funds, which are up to a council member to award.
- The canopy assessment is moving along well.
- Trees Knox has been busy with various committee meetings.
- Tom has been working on the pollinator grove at the Knoxville Botanical Garden.
- Traci will be at the Dogwood Elementary School to present them with an arboretum award.

**Ex-officio Reports**

- David McGinley reported that Stormwater had a very busy October.
- Tim Hester reported that the Northwest Greenway Connector Phase I project is out for bid. This is the connection from Western Avenue to Victory Ashe Park. Will add trees next year.
- Ben Nanny reported that there are a lot of volunteer opportunities opening at Ijams.
  - They're getting ready for their planting season.
  - River Rescue is coming up on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - The propagation site is up and running.

- Lee Rumble is wrapping up his first year as a UT Ag Extension agent. He will be working on his impact statements, and his 2021 plans.
  - The 49<sup>th</sup> annual Grounds Management Short Course will be virtual this year. It will be only one this year, and will be called the Eastern Regional. It will take place every Wednesday in January. Price is yet undetermined.
  - He's been doing site visits and a lot of networking.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.