

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
JANUARY 9, 2020

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

Ex officio members present were Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering; and Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center.

Visitors were Tracie Hellwinckel, Project Manager for Trees Knoxville; and Kelsey Jones, AmeriCorps.

Action Items for January

- Approve November and December minutes.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Kasey compared work from 2018 to 2019.
 - There was a huge increase in work request and work they had to tackle.
 - There was a small decrease in Ash tree removals.
 - Tree pruning increased by about 500 trees. Tree emergency calls increased due to storms.
- Current Projects for 2020 and Accomplishments from 2019.
 - Canopy assessment is being finalized, and the Invasive Species plan is still being worked on. Both should be completed by early 2020.
 - Central Avenue, Magnolia Avenue, and the Augusta Avenue entrance to the Fort Dickerson Quarry are all projects that require a large amount of trees, and all are still being worked on.
 - The ISA Conference was really big for us last year. There has been a lot of positive feedback from ISA and the attendees.
 - Another accomplishment has been adding Kelsey Jones to the Urban Forestry team.
 - Volunteer Forestry program has been great. 2019 saw another 40 graduates.
 - Urban Forestry is working with Engineering on the street light line project. The Engineering Department took over street light line maintenance from KUB, and Urban Forestry has been helping with vegetation clearance and will be working with them on ongoing maintenance.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- 12-10-19 Taking Root Committee meeting to discuss 2020 goals and develop prospectus for public and businesses. Update by committee members on donor contacts.
- 12-13-19 Phone call with prospective Trees Knoxville board member. Provided information on Trees Knoxville to prospective board member.
- 12-16-19 Meeting with Chase Whitmire of Alliance for Better Nonprofits to discuss Trees Knoxville joining the group. Join this group on 12-16-19.
- 12-17-19 Selected 75 street tree planting sites in Ft Sanders neighborhood on Forest Avenue and Sixteenth Street for Enterprise Grant project.
- 12-18-19 participated in Davey Tree Webinar on How to Set Achievable Canopy Goals.
- 12-23-19 Corona tools from \$1000 ACT grant delivered to the City of Knoxville warehouse. Kasey moved to his shed for storage.
- 1-8-20 Taking Root Committee meeting, Trees Knoxville Board meeting and first class of advance Volunteer Forester training.

Education Report & Arbor Day by Craig Walker

- No Report.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.