

URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING

May 8, 2019

Members Present: Dianne Benjamin, Barbara Chicherio, Darren Dunkle, Jeff Hales, Mary Harvey, Irv Logan, David Rowan, Kristin Sobatka, Julie Teixeira, Ewald Winker

Meeting called to order by President Kristin Sobatka.

Disposition of March 13, 2019 minutes: Dianne Benjamin pointed out two places her name was misspelled. Barbara Chicherio motioned to accept with revisions, Irv Logan seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Council Liaison Report: Jeff Hales reported the following:

- 1) Delmar Loop Week is being held from June 15 through June 22, 2019.
- 2) There is a Council Study Session being held on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 6 pm on the 5th floor of City Hall to discuss what led to the cancellation of Fair U. City.

Monthly Forestry Reports: Ewald Winker reported the following:

- 1) There was quite a bit of storm damage since the last meeting.
- 2) Planting will begin next week and run through June.

Old Business:

- 1) Informational Brochure:

Barbara will resend the newer version of the brochure along with requested documentation to Jeff, Allison Danberger, and the Parks Staff for approval.

- 2) Distribution:

- Give to people prior to coming before the commission to make them aware of why trees may or may not be removed.
- Put a blurb in the city newsletter.
- Include with Arbor Day information.
- Put on city website.

New Business: The following points were brought up:

- 1) Arbor Day:

We are required to hold a celebration of some sort each year. There was a discussion as to what we wanted to do. It was decided that we should wait until the new Forester was hired so that we could get his/her input. Maybe hold a launch for the new employee along with the celebration. This has been tabled until the July 10, 2019 meeting.

- 2) Introduction of New Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Director:

Darren Dunkle is graduate of Missouri State University. He spent time in Ballwin, Olivette, Chesterfield, and Washington in various capacities before coming to University City.

- 3) New Forester:

Interviews are being held on Thursday, May 9 and Friday, May 10, 2019. The new employee will begin hopefully June 1, 2019.

- 4) Change in meeting times:

Dianne asked about changing our meeting times from 7 pm to 6 pm starting next year. This is something that can be done when forms for the new calendar are sent to the departments sometime in October.

5) Next Meeting:

In the past, the July meeting has been cancelled due to availability of commission members. We will not cancel July unless we cannot reach a quorum as this is the first time the new Forester will be in attendance.

Update of Development Projects: None

Citizen Comments: No comments.

Kristin asked for a motion for adjournment, Julie Teixeira motioned, Irv Logan seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Submitted by: Julie Teixeira