



## CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### TREE COMMISSION

### MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, August 17, 2026**

**9:30 a.m.**

This meeting will be held at City Hall in the McCloskey Conference Room

401 N Morton St Bloomington Indiana 47404

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For more information about the Tree Commission, or to submit questions or comments for consideration by the Tree Commission, [send an email to Urban Forester Haskell Smith.](#)

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### Tree Commission Members

| Stephanie Freeman-Day | Common Council | 2/1/2025 | 2/1/2025-1/31/2028 |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------|--------------------|
| Travis Harding        | Common Council | 2/1/2025 | 2/1/2025-1/31/2028 |

|                              |                             |           |                    |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| George Hegeman               | Board of Park Commissioners | 2/1/2024  | 2/1/2024-1/31/2027 |
| Vacant                       | Mayor                       | n/a       | n/a                |
| Mia Williams                 | Mayor                       | 2/1/2026  | 2/1/2026-1/31/2029 |
| Karl Gaisser                 | Environmental Commission    | 4/16/2026 | 4/16/2029          |
| Vacant                       | Board of Public Works       | n/a       | n/a                |
| Haskell Smith, Staff Liaison | n/a                         | n/a       | n/a                |

## **CALL TO ORDER**

### **I. ROLL CALL**

- A. Present: Haskell, Mia, George, Stephanie, Karl, plus guests (Neil Tong, Ava Hartman, Jude- urban forestry specialist with city)
- B. Absent: Travis

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MEMO. -July 20th, 2026**

- A. Mia move to approve, Karl seconds, all pass

### **III. AGENDA**

#### **A. Reports**

1. Urban Forester's Report (Haskell Smith) - see attached (below)
  - i. Removals (including pear trees and poor-quality red maples on E 3<sup>rd</sup> ), plantings (210 to date and 480 planned for fall), and pruning (multiple parks) summarized, rebuilding nursery irrigation,
  - ii. Park Board for September (2026 Canopy Expansion, BUFRG partnership, quarterly ash removals and risk reports, Palo Alto partnership- mutual tree plantings of same species
  - iii. Bloomington Branches 9/12 4-7PM

- iv. Interlocal agreement with county to clear logjams in Clear Creek corridor
  - v. Tree Assistance Program contract awarded to Bluestone, and agreement with Mother Nature landscaping for tree health care treatments (non Ash-borer)
  - vi. New certified arborist added to crew, Haskell and others going to TRAQ renewal course in the fall
  - vii. Ash tree workshop being planned, Green Waste Management Plan (grant possibility), UF Master Plan 90% complete (goal to get approved by Park Board by the end of the year)
  - viii. Equipment repair and replacement- city council due to review budget in near future
2. Environmental Commission Report (Karl Gaisser)
- i. Much of last meeting focused on the Dark Skies Policy, will have joint session with Commission for Sustainability and Resilience, EC needs new members for 5 vacant seats, possible partnership with Canopy for plantings in Habitat Corridor
3. Report from Indiana University's Landscape Liaison (Mia Williams)
- i. Recurring meeting with Tristan Johnson, lead arborist position posted, fall trees- 130 to be planted to meet KPI of 300 trees/year, locations include 17<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor, bypass area, old Everman area, getting a new spiderlift, tree inventory presentation that Mia shared last meeting- IU will make a public-facing version of the slides

## B. New Business

1. Indiana Community Forest Council (INCFC) Questionnaire Template (see attached)
- i. INCFC is an advisory group to IDNR-CUF
  - ii. Goal- visit other Tree Commissions and advisory groups to ask set of questions to find experiences/opinions with tree ordinances and policy
  - iii. We can download and get form back to Haskell

C. Old Business

1. none

D. Public Comment – anything unrelated to agenda items

1. none

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Vote to adjourn- Mia moves, Karl seconds, all approve

**V. NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 21, 2026, location TBD**

**Location: To Be Determined**

**Handouts (see attached, if available)**

- Tree Commission Meeting Memo and Notes (July 20, 2026)
- Tree Commission Meeting Agenda (July 20th, 2026)
- Urban Forester's Report (August 17, 2026)
- INCFC Policy Question Template (August 17, 2026)