



Bloomington Tree Commission

Draft Meeting Agenda, April 17th, 2023

Introduction

No requirements for Live Zoom or Recording for TC meetings (Open Door policy)
consider stopping the Zoom- we have not had a member of the public join in past year

Attending: Mary, Mia, Linda Thompson, Jeff, Stephanie, George

Consent agenda

1. Approval of Minutes for March 20th, 2023, meeting
 - approved by Mary, Mia, Jeff, Stephanie, Linda abstained, George arrived after vote
2. Next meeting will be Monday, May 15th, 9:30 am at the Rose Hill Cemetery office

Discussions and Presentations

3. Engineering presentations, if any
 - none
4. Public comment, if any
 - none
5. Open Door Policy- Linda Thompson
 - nothing has changed in Open Door Policy laws
 - some new awareness- two documents in beginning of meeting- and Agenda and an Announcement (they can be the same document) on city website and 48 hours in advance (for a Monday meeting- Thursday morning at latest)
 - for minutes, **memorandum** has to go on website (right away- no specific time period known at present) and needs to include : 1) roll call if on Zoom 2) who voted to yes/no/abstained/made motion to approve minutes, and include who is present, who is absent, and who joined via Zoom for **minutes**, include discussion has been done up until now
 - we are still able to add late agenda items- there is enough flexibility for this

Reports

6. Urban Forester's Report and Tree Commission Education (Haskell Smith)
 - not discussed in Haskell's absence
7. Tree Issues at IU, if any (Mia Williams)
 - April is very busy for tree-related events

- Olmstead speaker at IU Auditorium on April 28 Mr. Cotton, Jlm Capshew, Hannah Gregory, and Mia Williams will speak followed by a ceremonial tree planting - connection to Woodland Campus Initiative
 - expanded planting with more students on April 28
8. Report from Environmental Commission (Dave Parkhurst)- Dave is absent, report from Linda Thompson
- MC-IRIS and EC are continuing with Weed Wrangles at Winslow Woods Park- this activity is part of the EC Habitat Connectivity Plan, which aims to connect existing areas with high tree canopy cover (i.e., Griffy, Jackson Creek area, and Winslow Woods area)- to basically create a circle around Bloomington
 - i. Mia- habitat connectivity is also an active project on IU campus
 - ii. Linda will connect with EC on including IU Campus area in the connectivity plan
 - iii. Mia- this also connects with the idea of interfacing IU and city tree inventories
 - iv. Mary- question about if there is an existing map, people can add their “pin” to the map- link is on EC webpage on city site
 - v. Tree commission members Mary, Mia, Stephanie can help spread awareness
 - vi. David sent link to College-Walnut corridor study, asked if EC should work with Tree Commission and Bicycle Pedestrian Commission- add to Agenda to vote on for next month
 - vii. UDO going to Council in next couple weeks, did not put anything about Tree Species lists or Tree Preservation
 - 1. Mary- asked if we could reach out to Council members, and we can- Mary and Mia will reach out

Old business

9. Tree commission vacancy update, if any
- one candidate- Dave Parkhurst’s wife
 - the Commission has also voiced the desire to appoint someone with experience in arboriculture or similar
10. Upcoming Tree Commission outreach and events - can anyone on the TC help table?
- April 19 12:00 PM: Spring Research Series - Stephanie Freeman-Day “Urban forested patches as common-pool resources - key factors in successful governance for resilience and persistence”:
<https://events.iu.edu/ostromworkshop/event/778611>
 - April 22: UF at the Farmers market. Info table from 8 AM-11AM
 - April 28: Arbor day at Switchyard Park, north entrance 9AM-12PM
 - April 29: Spring Volunteer tree planting at RCA Park 12-4:30 PM
 - Beyond: Urban Forestry booth at Saturday Farmers’ Market every 4th Saturday (May- October)
11. Other Upcoming Urban Forestry related happenings
- April 22: City of Bloomington P&R Earth Day Celebration, Southeast Park, 10am-1pm - <https://www.outerspatial.com/events/726>
 - April 28 Indiana University Arbor Day Celebration: Olmsted and the Woodland Campus, 10:30 AM-12:00
https://olmsted200.org/events/indiana-university-arbor-day-celebration-olmsted-and-the-woodland-campus/?mc_cid=443d2caa38&mc_eid=0e470f4d86
 - April 28: Sycamore Land Trust Arbor Day Tree Planting, Templeton Elementary,

School

- April 29: Sycamore Land Trust Arbor Day Tree Giveaway at both Bloomingfoods Locations:
<https://sycamorelandtrust.org/2023/02/arbor-day-tree-giveaway-bloomington-2/>
- April 28-30: 38th Annual Spring Wildflower Foray, Monroe & Brown County -
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1450454768695239>

New business

12. March 6th Bush hog concern a few blocks east of Bryan Park

- in area between Southdowns and Sheridan just east of Bryan Park, many volunteer trees were damaged or destroyed
- reason given to Jeff- they were taking down “junk trees” (they mentioned Hackberries, said they tried to keep Redbuds, but many were demolished), they also did this on East Davis, neighbors are upset, there had been no notable reason (no line of sight issues), Haskell said we would inform street department not to do this again on Southdowns/Sheridan, he may not have control over East Davis. Likely this came from a citizen complaint.
- solutions- connect Street Department with someone with arboricultural expertise, Jeff can connect with Dave Rollo, his Council representative

13. Continue Tree Care Manual review of changes, pages TBD for March’s meeting minutes, pages 10 and beyond

- Overview of past edits
- pick up at “Sidewalk Construction and Repair”
- we will wait until Haskell is back and we know more about any possible UDO edits to make any further edits to this document

Adjourn

mia moves to adjourn, approved by all members present

HANDOUTS

- Minutes from March TC meeting (see attached)
- Urban Foresters Report (n/a Haskell out sick)
- Tree Care Manual with comments (see attached)
- Tree pruning informational handouts put together by Haskell for a workshop at the Community Orchard held in March (see attached)
- Documentation of bush hog concern (see attached)