



**Bloomington Tree Commission
Minutes of the meeting, 17 July 2019**

PRESENT: Kerry Bridges (ISA certified arborist); Tom Coleman, (Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Fine Arts, IUB; Indiana Tree Steward of the Year 2004); Laurel Cornell (chair, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Studio Art); David Dilcher (professor emeritus, Geological Sciences, IUB); Lindsey Hummel (Environmental Commission); Lee Huss (urban forester, City of Bloomington); Dedaimia Whitney (Certified Tree Steward, Master Gardener); Mia Williams (landscape architect, Indiana University).

ABSENT:

George Hegeman (Professor Emeritus, Microbiology, IUB).

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Minutes** from 15 May and 16 June meeting minutes approved.
2. **Tree species for the Winslow Road project.** Brock Ridgway needs TC input by noon 18 July. He had sent his cultivar list to the TC right after the June meeting. Crab apple cultivar “Red Jewell” is rust and blight resistant. TC recommends using a Kentucky coffee tree “Espresso” as a back-up for the hackberry on the list. Request that Ridgway use Latin names for the trees in future for added clarity.
3. **UDO.** Ask Scott Robinson about getting electronic copy of pages 212-233 (tree commission) and forward to TC. Dedaimia will assemble comments and forward them to Scott Robinson and Lee. For tree protection, shall be governed by the Tree Management During Development policy of the Tree Commission. Under permitted plant species, be governed by the most current revision of the Permitted Plant Species. Plant material standards should be under the authority of the urban forester.
4. **Davie inventory.** Davie will be finishing up by the end of the month. The remaining work will be integrating their study with the canopy management system. The city will have three iPads in the hands of city employees to keep the system up to date once commissioned. Davie will do two presentations on 17 September.
5. **Lee’s replacement.** Lee’s job description will be posted today. Laurel will send a copy of the job description to the TC.
6. **Tree Care Manual.** The tree manual will be the responsibility of the new forester. Lee would like the TC to especially look at the five-year plan in the current manual before the he or she comes in. There are several locations in town already earmarked for beautification, and there is budget for tree planting. New city forester will come in with money to spend and a new truck. After we think about the five-year plan, the TC should work with Julie Ramey to update the manual.

URBAN FORESTER REPORT

1. **Pruning.** All Things Green has a contract for pruning. Rick Patrick has finished doing his 200 street trees. The city pruned 85 trees near the IU campus.
2. **Planting.** City crews were still planting on the 20th of June because of the strange accommodating weather. Still planning for fall planting.
3. **Emerald Ash Borer.** Ash trees planted in the late 90s, before we knew about the EAB, are being removed now. Bluestone has been doing a lot of the work; the contract is about finished.
4. **Budget.** Lee spent a lot of money on contracted tree removal. The city is ordering more water bags to put around trees put in by contractors. The Street Department has been using the forester’s bucket truck.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Tree Commission will be 9:30 a.m. 21 August at the north shelter in Bryan Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Dedaimia Whitney