

## MINUTES

City of Bloomington Tree Commission

Wednesday April 15, 2020, 9:30-10:15am

Online via Zoom

Present: Erin Hatch (Urban Forester), Laurel Cornell (Chair), Kerry Bridges, Tom Coleman, David Dilcher, George Hegeman, Dave Parkhurst, Dedaimia Whitney, Mia Williams

### Reports

3. Urban Forester's Report. The Tree Commission received the Urban Forester's Report (attached). Erin added that a tree is being transplanted at Third Street Park.
4. Tree Care Manual revisions received. Erin will ask Julie about the status of the Tree Care Manual. She was working on it before the covid emergency.
5. Tree issues at IU, if any. Mia reported that in the storms of April 8 IU lost three large evergreens.
6. Report from the Environmental Commission. The Environmental Commission is planning to have regular articles in the Herald-Time. Dave forwarded to us his comments to the Council on Environmental Quality about the loosening of requirements for Environmental Impact Statements.

### New Business

7. Batchelor Middle School Forest removal. Tom reported on his efforts to protest the replacement of the Forest at Batchelor Middle School that was planted by schoolchildren from 1999 – 2010 by a new Monroe County Public Library building complex. Comments ensued. Connect with the people on the County Plan Commission, the MCCSC School Board, and the MCPL Library Board who had not known of the Forest before this plan was prepared. Make allies with the PTA. Create a comprehensive flier or report on the Forest that uses both visual images and statistics to show what was planted, how it has grown, and what it contributes to environmental health in the area so that everyone can have a common source of information. Once these are accomplished the Tree Commission can write a supporting letter. Tom will talk with the Environmental Commission at its May meeting. Tom already has planned to talk with the Editor of the H-T for a Sunday editorial. Talk with WFIU Noon Edition (Bob Zaltzberg) and ask a question at WFIU Ask the Mayor (Joe Wrenn). Create a Facebook page or website (and use other new media) to publicize the issue.

### Consent agenda

8. Approve that the Urban Forester's Report of March 16, 2020 constitutes the Minutes for the March meeting. Approved unanimously.
9. Date of next meeting: Wednesday May 20, 2020, 9:30am, online or in person at Switchyard Park

Adjourn 10:15am