



**Bloomington Tree Commission**  
Minutes of the meeting, 19 May 2021

**PRESENT:** Tom Coleman, (Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Fine Arts, IUB; Indiana Tree Steward of the Year 2004); Erin Hatch (COB Urban Forester); George Hegeman (Professor Emeritus, Microbiology, IUB); David Parkhurst (Environmental Commission, Professor Emeritus, SPEA); Dedaimia Whitney (Certified Tree Steward, Master Gardener); Mia Williams (landscape architect, Indiana University).

**ABSENT:** Kerry Bridges (ISA Board Certified Master Arborist); Laurel Cornell (chair, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Studio Art).

**GUEST: Jeff Palmer** (Professor Emeritus, Biology IUB). Jeff is the newest appointed member of the Tree Commission. He is retired from the Biology Department at IU, specializing in plant biology, evolution, and plant genomes.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

April minutes were approved.

The next meeting of the Tree Commission will be 9:30 a.m. 16 June 2021 via Zoom.

**THANK YOU**

The TC discussed the many contributions made by David Dilcher over the years, and wanted to express their heartfelt thanks to him.

**REPORTS**

**Urban Forester's report.** The three seasonal staff positions have been filled. Part-time seasonal staff person Liam Greene will help at least until August.

Erin said she is working on the urban forestry portion of the 2022 city budget. She wanted the TC to know that she has budgeted a large number of native trees for the city's wildlife corridor. George recommends that she include food-producing trees, such as pawpaws, etc., for the animals that use the corridor.

She asked the commission whether the '1 tree per 3" dbh removed' was the TC's preferred standard ratio. There seemed to be general agreement around that number. She asked if dead trees or nuisance trees should be included in the computations. The TC said that nuisance trees make environmental contributions despite their drawbacks, so they should be counted as trees to be replaced. Dead trees, on the other hand, would not be included—as George said, "Zombies don't count." Erin will advise the engineering department that this will be the standard they can use in their planning. The process for instituting an in-lieu fee system is currently being discussed with the legal department.

Dave Parkhurst asked if the smaller trees in southeast park may be in danger of cicada damage; Erin said city is not currently installing netting, just monitoring and pruning as needed.

**Indiana University.** IU had a tree-planting activity on 30 April with members of IU staff. They planted 56 trees in old Crescent area and various other places. They got the second half of their tree order yesterday (black gum, scarlett oak, white oak, sweet gum).

For newcomer Jeff's benefit, Mia summarized the woodland tree initiative, which is an effort to formalize the woodland landscape brand that IUB has always been known for and expand this model to other other locations. It is currently pending approval.

She participated in the landscape plan for the new hospital, which will be largely native.

**Environmental Commission.** A representative of the Friends of Lake Monroe will ask the commission its support for the renewal of its water quality grant funding.

Respectfully submitted,

Dedaimia Whitney

Urban Forester Report  
May 2021

Recent Activities/Events:

- Tree Planting:
  - Butler Park (4)
  - Miller Showers Park (15)
  - Bryan Park - Memorial Tree (1)
  - 421 E 16<sup>th</sup> St (2)
  - 3204 E Kristen Ct (1)
  - S Sare Rd Median (2) - between E Olson Dr and E Creeks Edge Dr
- Tree Pruning:
  - Continuing in Bryan Park
  - S Washington from E 1<sup>st</sup> St to Allen St
- 11 Trees Sent to Streets for Removal:
  - 702 S. Washington St. - 38" Silver Maple
  - 626 W. 13<sup>th</sup> St (2) - 23" & 20" Elm
  - 1809 E Hillside - Maple
  - 205 E 16<sup>th</sup> St - 6" Bradford Pear
  - 1122 E 1<sup>st</sup> St - 9" Crabapple
  - 2003 S Olcott Blvd (2) - 12" & 15" Ash
  - 312 E 8<sup>th</sup> St - 25" Silver Maple
  - 3207 E Kensington Park Dr (2) - 12" Red Maple, 12" Sugar Maple
- Arbor Day Foundation Growth Award Received - for Inventory and Canopy Assessment, and ongoing reforestation efforts
- Last Seasonal staff position filled, with new employee beginning 5/10

Upcoming Activities/Events:

- May Parks Board Contracts:
  - Bartlett Tree Expert - continued EAB treatment of approximately 945 diameter inches of trees (71 trees)

Ongoing Activities:

- Marking and Removal of hazard trees
- Planting
- Pruning small trees <15" DBH