



**Bloomington Tree Commission
Minutes of the meeting, 16 June 2021**

PRESENT: 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); Erin Hatch (COB Urban Forester); George Hegeman (Professor Emeritus, Microbiology, IUB); Jeff Palmer (Professor Emeritus, Biology, 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)

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the May meeting were approved.
- The next meeting of the Tree Commission will be 9:30 a.m. Wednesday 21 July via Zoom.

REPORTS

Urban forester's report [Erin Hatch]

- Erin reported some cicada damage in Bryan Park and some of the smaller street trees.
- Jeff asked if there was any systematic program for removing Bradford pears. Erin said they come out when they are a problem, but the city doesn't have the budget to remove them proactively. She said she put in a budget item for removing Bradford pears along the B-line trail.
- Erin said she is working on a tree protection plan for trees in construction area.

Indiana University [Mia Williams]

- Tree planting is finished.
- Mia is working on developing protection guidelines for trees during construction.
- IUPUI has proposed a multi-year plan to remove Bradford pears from its campus.
- Mia recommended Jeff contact Tristan Johnson at IU about removing invasives. Laurel suggested the TC support a volunteer effort to help remove invasives. Mia said she could arrange for IU to remove whatever volunteers could pull.

Environmental Commission [Dave Parkhurst]

- Working group reports are the main thing on the agenda for tomorrow evening.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Library expansion.** The Friends of the Library will meet on Sunday the 27th and discussing the new branch. Dave Parkhurst is planning to attend. He will share the zoom with the TC.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Meeting regulations for city commissions.** The state law permitting commission meetings by zoom may soon expire. The park board is considering a resolution to allow hybrid meetings. The park board resolution would require 50% members meet in person; no person can attend more than 50% of the meetings virtually.

**Respectfully submitted,
Dedaimia Whitney**