Franklin Tree Board

Minutes

July 21, 2011

Franklin City Hall

The meeting was called to order by Gregg Cantwell. Roll call showed that Gregg, Debra Swinehamer, Sherri Hall, Meg Jones, Larry Nun, and Chip Orner were present. Arborist Jim Farr was also present.

 The minutes were approved on motion by Sherri and second by Meg.

 Meg had no committee reports. Greg reported that he had met with Zach Burton and Rick Littleton to update the web site. Jim Farr reported that in the past month the staff had removed 10 – 12 dead or declining trees, performed in excess of 20 crown raisings (especially along South Street prior to the parade) and had planted 23 trees. Debbie suggested that staff present the Board with written reports at future meetings so that board members could know more precisely where and what activity is taking place.

OLD BUSINESS

The Tree City signs are to be erected on Friday, July 22.

Debbie reported having mailed out six postcards to tree companies whose street address was printed in the telephone book. She distributed copies of the context of the card. She will also contact Sherry Phillips of the Department of Public Works about having a similar message printed on the sewer bills.

The IUFC membership fee has been sent in.

The Memo of Understanding is still being reviewed by the City Attorney.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim will distribute copies of the Davie Tree Company proposal for the tree inventory. He had emailed a proposal from Bluestem to the board members earlier today. Discussion will take place at the August meeting.

Members’

 new terms: Mayor Paris had replied to Debbie that he intended for the terms to run identical to those started in 2009. That being understood Debbie proposed and Larry seconded that terms will end at the end of a calendar year rather than mid-year and those terms are as follows: ending in 2011 Larry Nun and Sherri Hall; ending in 2012 Debra Swinehamer and Meg Jones; and board members Chip Orner, Greg Cantwell and Scott Swartz will serve until the end of 2013.

Fifth Third Bank recently had a new landscaping plan installed at their Franklin branch. During the planning process they felt they received professional guidance from Jim Farr and the Planning Department personnel. They recently sent a $1,000 donation to the Tree Board. This was deposited into the Non-reverting Tree Capital Improvement Fund. Debbie volunteered to send Fifth Third a thank-you note.

It was noted that Jim Farr regularly attends the Technical Review Committee meetings on behalf of the Tree Board and Chip is usually in attendance too.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phil Warrenburg noted that the trees along US 31 between Lowes and Kentucky Fried Chicken are in need of crown lifting as they are encroaching the sidewalk. He also noted that the Whispering Ponds sub-division had a very extensive and poorly designed tree trimming project. It was noted that it was performed by a private contractor hired by the Homeowners Association, not the City. Greg will attempt to discern who the contractor was to notify them of the new city regulations.

With no further business to come before the board he meeting adjourned on motion by Sherri.

Respectfully submitted,

 Debra Swinehamer