Franklin Tree Board

Minutes

Oct. 20, 2011; 6 PM

Franklin City Hall

The meeting was called to order. In attendance: Larry Nun, Debra Swinehamer, Chip Orner, Scott Swartz, Sherri Hall, and Meg Jones.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved on motion by Scott and second by Chip.

**Committee Reports:**

Jim Farr reported as the Tree Board Designee that no tree work had been performed nor was any planned in the near future. Debbie questioned why no written reports had been prepared for the last three meetings, after being requested. Jim reported that staff was short, MS3 work was being performed by all and no reportable work had been performed. Debbie reminded him of an email she had sent regarding two trees on Walnut Street, one at Walnut and King which was dead and one on Walnut between King and Adams on the east side which was nearly dead. Chip also noted his request about work to be performed at Jefferson and Branigin Blvd.

**Old Business**

It was reported that the Memorandum of Understanding had been approved at the Board of Works meeting.

Debbie reported that she had been given financial information from Janet Alexander. Checks written from the Tree Board account so far this year:

Arbor Day Foundation: (dues) $15.00

Arbor Day Foundation: (4 Tree City signs plus freight) $264.75

Cox’s Tree Service: (2 removals, 153 Walnut and 150 Adams) $1,100.00

Visa: (one roll of stamps) $44.00

Mendoza Landscape Contractors: (trees) $2,000.00

IUFC: (dues) $75.00

Cox’s Tree Service: (removal of trees on Forsythe St) $850.00

This leaves a balance of $651.25. The purchase of stamps from the Tree Board account was questioned as we have not done a mailing of any consequence. This also led to a discussion about making certain the Mayor, Street Commissioner, and Tree Board did not suffer a gap in communications in the future. It was noted that we should try to have a meeting with whoever is elected prior to January.

**New Business:**

Jim Farr relayed information about a request for the City to participate in “Super Bowl Village”. All agreed that we would need to submit detailed information rather quickly for which we had no man-power to secure.

Mention was made again about the poor quality of work performed recently at Whispering Ponds. It was suggested that we send a letter to all Homeowners Associations within Franklin regarding the new policy. Meg volunteered to come up with a letter by the November meeting.

Jim then introduced Aren Dottenwhy, of Davey Resource Group which has been hired to perform the tree inventory for Franklin. She demonstrated the computer that will be used and showed how all the information is recorded. There will be two or three people from her staff performing the work, there are approximately 8750 sites and the inventory is scheduled to be completed by January. There will be a press release announcing the work to be performed so the public will know why people are in their neighborhoods.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned on motion by Scott and second by Meg.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Swinehamer