

Tree Advisory Committee Minutes
12/9/21

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Richard Wertz @ 5:00pm

Present: Richard Wertz, JoAnn Cummings, Meg Jones, Chip Orner, Jim Farr, Ryne Brutus, Kathy Thomas, and Becky McNichols.

2. Announcements

None

3. Old Business

- a. Minutes of the meeting 6/23/21 presented. Richard Wertz motioned that they be approved, Kathy Thomas second. Motion passed.
- b. Fall Festival booth review
 - General feedback was positive. The Parks Department crew was great with set-up. A Greenwood couple won the tree raffle and the tree was planted. Names and email addresses collected can be used for future volunteer opportunities.

4. New Business

- a. All board members have agreed to renew service for another 2 year commitment. All board members must accept appointments in writing.
- b. 2022 Programs, Events, and Meeting Schedule
 - Meetings will be held on Thursday at 5 pm at the Cultural Arts and Recreation Center unless otherwise noted.
 - March 31, 2022
 - April 29, 2022 Arbor Day Celebration in Urban Forest
 - June 23, 2022
 - August 25, 2022 Wildflowers and Wine event at Art Garden by Richard's Brick Oven Pizza
 - September 24, 2022 Franklin Fall Festival
 - November 3, 2022

Richard Wertz motioned to approve dates.

Meg Jones second. Motion passed.

c. Amphitheater Planting

- Grant from Duke Energy for \$23,334 is available for planting area between trail and creek behind the new amphitheater park. This area includes stream banks and floodways. Chip, Meg, and Richard will meet 12/10/21 at 12:30pm to walk around the area. Meg and Ryne will take the lead on planning. JoAnne Cummings suggested reaching out to Johnson County Native Plant Society through Blair Beavers (blair-beavers@iaswcd.org) to solicit volunteer help when planting is going to happen. Would like to have planting done before the Arbor Day event April 29.

5. Reports

a. City Arborist Jim Farr-

- City crews doing danger/risk tree removal

6. Public Comments

None

7. Advisory Committee Comments

- a. Richard Wertz reminded board members to document any time spent on Tree Board activities and turn in hours to Jason Wilson or Chip Orner. Richard also mentioned that Franklin College President Cary Prather has offered volunteer hours from students and student athletes.
- b. There were questions about the state of the button bush whips planted by JoAnn and Meg along the Greenway trail between Forsythe and Webb Elementary. No one was sure of the status of the shrubs.
- c. Kathy Thomas asked about beaver damage to trees along Young's Creek near the cemetery. Jim Farr reported that the beaver problem is being addressed.

8. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 5:46.