

## Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 9, 2009 at 5:30 PM

Giles Dow Room at City Hall, 381 E Main, Stoughton, WI

**Members Present:** Tim Carter, Jay Schotzko, Tim Berndt, Dean Tangeman, Pat Ready and Randy Nelson

**Absent & Excused:** Todd Fossum, Josh LaPointe, Darren Marsh, Craig Wood & Rick Gullickson

**Absent:**

**Guests:** None

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Tangeman.

- 1) **Approval of minutes from June 11, 2009 meeting:** Motion by Carter seconded by Ready to approve minutes. Motion carried 4-0.
- 2) **Correspondence:** *Erdahl* shared a letter which the Mayor wanted the Commission to review regarding an Emerald Ash Borer preventative treatment program. The Committee wanted to know if there are any Ash trees in Stoughton that have a significant meaning that we should try the program. It was also suggested that perhaps if a resident has an Ash tree that they would like to adopt and purchase the product on their own then we could provide the necessary information.  
*Nelson* proposed an idea to tie a neon colored ribbon to green & white ash park row trees as we are out doing normal business with the hope that it will draw attention and residents will contact the City and realize how many Ash trees the City has and how devastating it will be should they all be removed.  
**Motioned by Carter, seconded by Ready to have the Street Department {Manthe} obtain ribbon to tie to park row tries. Motion carried 4-0.**  
*Tangeman* also stated that while spending time in Bjorn Park he noticed that the trees have been hit and damaged by mowers and requested that we check into the City's mowing procedures.
- 3) **Stoughton Tree Ordinances Review:** Page two of Ordinance 64-14 Street trees was reviewed with changes made in section f #6, section g #1 and 3, section I and section K. Page 3 will need to be reviewed for the August meeting.
- 4) **2009 Tree City USA / Growth Award:** *Erdahl* verified with Jeff Roe from the Department of Natural Resources that the forester position did qualify and will count for the whole 10 points to earn the 2009 Growth Award under C13 (Professional Tree Manager).
- 5) **Tree Selections and Prohibited Plantings:** *Berndt* submitted a list for the committee to review, add/delete. This will be discussed at the August meeting.
- 6) **Tree Inventory – Ash Count:** More Ash trees and other types have been identified that were not on the Inventory.
- 7) **Japanese Knotweed:** *Nelson* started a discussion on how invasive this plant is and feels we should apply for a grant to help with obtaining the chemicals to destroy the plant on public grounds. Even with spraying it can take three years to get rid of it and it spreads quickly. A suggestion was made to adopt a resolution for planting it anywhere – in order to do this however, there would need to be justification and back up saying this plant is a threat. An article in the Hub was read and discussed
- 8) **Future Agenda Items:** Japanese Knotweed Moratorium, Stoughton Tree Ordinance, Prohibited Tree Planting List

Motion by Ready seconded by Carter to adjourn meeting at 7:10 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted, Vickie Erdahl - Staff Member