

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 12th, 2023 @ 5:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting - Stoughton, WI

Members Present: Mike Point, Kevin Short, Dean Tangeman, Aaron Mazzone & Jim Fitzgibbon

Absent & Excused: Fred Hundt

Staff: City Forester John Kemppainen

Guest: Megan Blomel

Call to order: Tangeman called to order @ 5:02 PM

- **Communications:**

- *Kemppainen* stated a Oak Savanna will be plated at new park at 51 West.
- *Tangeman* would like to change meeting time to 6:00pm. All were in favor and will be changed moving forward.

- **Approval of minutes from February 8th, 2023 Meeting:**

Motion by Short, seconded by Mazzone. Carried 6-0

- **Approval of minutes from March 8th, 2023 Meeting:**

Motion by Short, seconded by Point. Carried 6-0

- **February Forestry Reports:** *Kemppainen* stated:

- He assisted with several snow events in March.
- The Forestry Intern position was filled.
- One city tree was removed in March at Heggstad Memorial Walk. Additional large tree removals still need to be completed within some parks but conditions have not been conducive to using equipment on turf covered areas.
- Spring tree planting preparation began. Eighty trees have been purchased for street terrace planting, approximately half of which will be for new homes. Twenty trees have been ordered to place in the gravel bed nursery for planting later in the year as well.
- Zero ordinance violation notices were issued in March.
- Twenty terrace tree planting applications for new construction were submitted in March.

- **OLD BUSINESS: Canopy Cover**

Short attended and recently spoke to the Sustainability Committee on behalf of the Tree Commission in April and promoted the upcoming tree sale. Members seemed generally excited.

Spring Tree Sale

Kemppainen stated the tree sale is still on for April 29th for 9am to Noon. Pricing is \$60/tree and it has been posted on social media.

Arbor Day Celebration Visits:

Megan Blomel joined for the discussion and visits will be in the morning at Kegonsa School and then Fox Prairie in the afternoon. 12 students from the Environmental Club will visit each school to talk to the students about trees and how to plant them.

High School Arboretum:

Tangeman spoke to the FFA Alumni about planting some new trees and they would be willing to fund these. The Tree Commission may work with students in the A.G. program to map and care for trees as well as tree ID markers.

• **NEW BUSINESS: Stoughton Notable Trees Initiative:**

Tangeman stated there is no update at this time.

Future Agenda Items:

Oak trimming ordinance for the City

Motion by Short, seconded by Mazzone to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m. Motion carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted 4/19/23, Jen Wagner - Staff