



KIRKWOOD URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

City of Kirkwood

139 S. Kirkwood Road

Kirkwood, MO 63122

October 27, 2015

PRESENT: David Slane, Ellen Edman, Andy Baldrige, Linda Holekamp, Carol Rush, Joe Day, Matthew Stacker and Georgia Ragland, city staff liaison. Nancy Luetzow, council liason was present.

ABSENT: None.

GUESTS: Bill Bensing, Director of Public Services

Pursuant to notice of meeting duly given, the Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission convened on October 27, 2015, at Kirkwood City Hall, 139 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, Missouri.

- I. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by David Slane.
- II. Secretary Report: Minutes from the September 22, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted with the correction of a minor typographical error.
- III. Citizen Comments: None.
- IV. Guest Introduction: Bill Bensing was present to discuss the commission's draft tree preservation ordinance. A group of staff including Bensing, ACAO Ragland, City Planner Ryan Spencer, and Building Commissioner Jack Schenck had met to review the draft. Since much of the draft was based on another community's ordinance there were issues since the communities differ in their organizational structure and how their code of ordinances is set up. Some of the matters in the draft ordinance such as landscaping requirements are the purview of Planning and Zoning. Staff offered to write a new draft after listening to the commission outline its priorities. It was also suggested that for items that fall under the Zoning Code that the commission communicate its interest to Planning and Zoning to participate in any review that P&Z undertakes that involves trees and landscaping. A discussion occurred and members listed the following items as ones they would like the draft ordinance to address:
 - Clear cutting of lots and a look back period
 - Assigning a value to public trees and establishing consequences for unauthorized removals
 - Saving trees that are identified in a developer's tree protection plan
 - Establishing a means of replacing trees that are lost to development or, if not practicable, paying into a tree fund to be used to plant trees elsewhere
 - Explore means of designating and protecting Heritage Trees
 - Bring developers to Urban Forestry Commission to request removal of public trees prior to finalization of plans and issuance of a building permit

- V. Council Liaison Report: Council member Luetzow reported that the city had received a Trailnet Active Living Award for local public engagement.
- VI. ACTIVITY REPORTS
 - a. Junior Treekeepers Program: There was discussion of providing St. Gerard and St. Peter Junior Treekeeper classes with a tree to plant as their service projects. David Slane, Ellen Edman and Nancy Luetzow will request a meeting with the principal at Robinson to offer to plant a tree there as part of the 2016 Arbor Day program since they recently lost a tree there. They will also explore any interest in adding Junior Treekeepers to Robinson in 2016.
 - b. Education and Outreach: Another utility insert is scheduled for March, 2016 and Ellen Edman asked commissioners to send her any items they think would be appropriate.
 - c. Tree City USA/Growth Award/Other Awards:
 - i. Tree city, USA. Recertification 2015 (Growth award if applicable) Due 12/31/15
 - ii. MDC- Missouri Arbor Award of Excellence Due 12/01/15.
 - iii. KUFC Advocate Award – due 3-15-16.
 - d. KUFC Annual Report: No update.
 - e. Event Participation: Joe Day has all the handouts so they can be consolidated and stored. He will also try to replace the ones that proved most popular.
 - f. Tree Inventory Update: Still awaiting word on the grant.
 - g. Tree Ordinance Subcommittee Report: Draft ordinance given to staff.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

NEXT MEETING: November 24, 2015 at 7:00 pm Kirkwood City Hall Main Conference Room

ADJOURN: Motion to adjourn at 8:37 pm

David Slane, Chair _____

Date Approved _____