



## Tree Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 10, 2023 @ 6:00 PM

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Meeting ID:** 892 6536 5935 **Passcode:** 282824

**Call to Order** – Chairman Stemmler – 6:02

*In attendance: Recreation Supervisor Stephanie Hardesty, Board Member Jane Sharp, Board Member Nancy Miller, Board Member Matthew Broderick, Board Member Karen Zelle, Alderman John Dodge, Urban Forestry Consultant Mark Halpin, Board Liaison David Pracht (Assistant Director of Public Works), Mayor Mike Clement, Chairman Mike Stemmler*

**Approve Minutes from October 12, 2022, Tree Advisory Board Meeting - Approved**

### Old Business

#### 1. 2023 Missouri Department of Conservation Grant Application(s)

- a. La Bonne Pkwy Bradford Pears Removal & Replacement Update - Mark Halpin & Dave Pracht  
*The overgrown brush and trees were recently removed in-house by Manchester Public Works staff – the effort took 4 days of staff time. Dave Pracht shared before and after pictures; Mayor Clement complimented Public Works for a job well done.*
- b. Hwy 141 & N Meramec Station Rd. (MODOT property) - Dave Pracht  
*LaBonne – after discussing the project with members of the community it has been decided to remove only half of the trees during the initial project phase, with the other half to be removed at a later stage once the replacement trees have been established.*  
  
*Replacement trees were discussed – if the neighborhood Homeowner’s Association purchases 15g trees from Forest ReLeaf of Missouri for \$90/each, Forest ReLeaf will help organize a volunteer planting effort to install the trees. Watering needs were discussed, and the possibility of using “tree diapers” was considered. Mark Halpin said the trees will only need about 5-10g of water per week.*  
  
*Matthew Broderick asked about deer protection; it was agreed that protective measures will be necessary. Mark Halpin suggested corrugated drainpipe as an economical solution.*

2. Right-of-Way Ash Tree Removal – P & Z Staff or Dave Pracht  
*Dave Pracht reported that, according to Code Enforcement Supervisor John Plowman, not much has changed in terms of compliance. Trees will be re-surveyed in spring.*
3. Tree City USA & Growth Awards Application– Mark Halpin 2022 Application Submittal – Update  
*Everything needed for Tree City and the Growth Award has been submitted. Mayor Clement asked if there is a level of recognition above the Growth Award; Mark Halpin reported that in the past there was another award for having won the Growth Award several times in a row, but that this has been done away with by the Arbor Day Foundation.*
4. Fall Residential Limb Chipping Report – Dave Pracht  
*During the October limb chipping 61 houses participated in Ward 1 (4 loads), 91 were collected in Ward 2 (4 loads), 126 houses in Ward 3 (5 loads).  
Wood chips collected from this program are taken to the City of Ellisville, where they are processed into mulch by the City's tub grinder. Manchester trucks the mulch back and offers it for free pickup at Siebert Park throughout the year. The program will re-start April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and will occur every Monday except right after Easter. Restrictions for limbs are that they must be under 30' in length, in piles under 4' high.  
2023 Spring Limb Chipping dates are: Ward 1 April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ward 2 April 17<sup>th</sup>, Ward 3 April 24<sup>th</sup>*

## **New Business**

1. City Christmas Tree Collection Report – Dave Pracht  
*Christmas tree collection began the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in January. For residents who missed it, Republic services will pick up trees if they are cut in half and put with yard waste. Dave Pracht mentioned that the Christmas trees produce the best-smelling mulch and so if this is a concern, residents should try to pick up mulch from Siebert Park soon after Christmas tree collection.*
2. 2023 City Sustainability Events Calendar is Available (see link below) – Dave Pracht  
[www.manchestermo.gov/sustainability](http://www.manchestermo.gov/sustainability)  
*Dave Pracht shared his screen and went through the events calendar – STL county funds an electronics recycling program, during which recycling everything is free except for TVs and freon-containing units (both of which cost \$10), and CRT computer monitors. This is one of the biggest e-cycling events in the state – 350-400 cars per event is average. The City will also collect for Circle of Concern food pantry during these events, with good success.*
3. Arbor Day Celebration April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Parks Staff (Stephanie Hardesty)  
*This event will feature the annual seedling giveaway, held at 10am – Stephanie Hardesty asked if planting should happen at same time or earlier. Last year the overlap led to some people missing one or the other event. After discussion it was agreed that tree planting will be held at 9:30 am. Tree type and location will be decided later. The Maker's Mart will be held inside, with kids' activity closer to building so everything is in one central location. Seedlings to be offered are flowering dogwood, swamp white oak, witch hazel, buttonbush, and black gum.*

#### 4. Other Topics

*Next meeting will be held on April 4, 2023, at 6pm, which will give the group another chance to discuss Arbor Day activities.*

**Adjournment** - Board adjourned at 6:42pm