



## **Tree Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday April 4, 2023 @ 6:00 PM

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Meeting ID:** 880 2375 8817 **Passcode:** 913684

**Call to Order** – Chairman Stemmler - **6:04pm**

**In Attendance:** *Dave Pracht, Mark Halpin, Stephannie Hardesty, John Dodge, Chairman Stemmler, Mayor Clement, Matthew Broderick, Jane Sharp*  
*Nancy Miller let David know she won't be attending - Karen joined at 6:12*

### **Acknowledgment of Matthew Broderick's Reappointment to the Tree Board:**

Dave Pracht acknowledged that Matthew Broderick has been confirmed to serve for 3 more years and thanked him for his service on the tree board. He looks forward to continuing working with him.

### **Approve Minutes from the January 10, 2023, Tree Advisory Board Meeting**

- Minutes Approved

### **1. 2023 Missouri Department of Conservation Grant Update**

*La Bonne Pkwy Callery Pear Removal & Replacement -Dave Pracht gave an initial update*

All trees have been removed by either Gamma or Manchester Public Works, and stump grinding will likely be completed by May. Only 100 linear feet of utility locates may be called in at once, which is what poses a time constraint for the stump component. Mayor Clement mentioned that he has not received any negative feedback and credits robust public outreach efforts for this. Mark Halpin mentioned that the Gamma crew also received no negative feedback during work. Once stumps have been ground MDC will begin reconciliation and issue the reimbursement check. Matthew Broderick mentioned a couple negative comments on Next Door, but the response has been largely positive.

### **2. Right-of-Way Ash Tree Removal – P & Z Staff or Dave Pracht**

2020 - 45 violations were issued, all were completed (removed or treated)

2021 - 65 issued and completed

2022 - 48 issued - 46 completed, 2 in court

2023 - 4 issued and completed so far, John Plowman expects more progress as the year continues

### **3. Tree City USA & Growth Awards 2023 Award Ceremony – Mark Halpin & Dave Pracht**

Dave Pracht confirmed that Manchester has received both the Tree City USA designation and the Growth Award, which will be presented at the annual luncheon. Chairman Stemmler requested that attendees take pictures. Dave is also writing an article about this and the CFCS project on LaBonne.

### **4. Spring Limb Chipping – Dave Pracht**

**Dates:** Ward 1 on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ward 2 on April 17<sup>th</sup>, Ward 3 on April 24<sup>th</sup>

Started in Ward 1 yesterday 4/3 and 4/4. Limbs are collected and chipped by Manchester Public Works staff. Wood chips sent to Ellisville and dumped, Ellisville uses their tub grinder to further process the chips into mulch and Manchester hauls it back when convenient. The resulting mulch is made available to residents every couple of months. Ellisville doesn't charge for this. Mayor Clement asked about quality and applying it to beds, discussion ensued - Mark Halpin said that the types of plants it is being applied around make a difference and that the resulting mulch is not suitable for use around tender annuals and perennials. Overabundance of carbon could be an issue, which could cause nitrogen deficiency.

### **5. Arbor Day Celebration April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Parks Staff – Stephanie Hardesty**

A Tulip poplar will be planted at 9:30 - Jane Sharp will be getting one from Kirkwood Gardens. After that the seedling giveaway will begin at 10am. 550 seedlings are available, 8 different types of trees. This will be limited to 2 per person for first the hour, and after 11 as many as you want. Seed bombs will also be available at the Maker's Mart and kids' activity area. Mayor Clement asked about the Arbor Day proclamation, and it was confirmed that someone will need to read one.

### **6. Update on 2023 Eco Friendly and Sustainability Classes – Parks Staff – Stephanie Hardesty**

Tree Walk, April 13th at 5:30pm - Mark Halpin will lead a group at Schroeder Park.

### **7. Recent Maintenance Staff Training – Dave Pracht and Mark Halpin**

Mark Halpin recently gave a pruning workshop to the PW and parks staff, with 1 hour of classroom instruction and 1 hour of practical demonstration outside afterwards. He covered basic tree biology, proper pruning techniques for different sizes of trees, and safety. Mayor Clement asked about a pruning class for offering to residents, Mark Halpin agreed that this would be a good idea and he would be happy to lead it. Chairman Stemmler mentioned the possibility of recording videos for YouTube showing pruning techniques as another possibility.

### **8. Other Topics**

Mayor Clement asked about MODOT rights of way being taken over by invasive species and if there's anything that can be done, discussion ensued. Mark Halpin mentioned the difficulties of getting MODOT involved due to budgetary constraints but encouraged the group to apply pressure, as only continued demands from the public and from policy makers will force a change. Mark Halpin mentioned that we should get CFCS and other grant ideas ready ASAP, in addition to MDC funds, IRA money will mean more funding for bigger projects. He agreed to send out a list of potential projects and hopes to have a few ideas decided upon at the next meeting.

**Next meeting on July 11, 2023, at 6 pm on Zoom**

**Adjournment - 6:50pm**