

## Manchester Tree Advisory Board Minutes

July 12, 2022

5:30PM

Location: Virtual via Zoom

**Call to Order** – Chairman Stemmler @ 5:34PM

**In attendance** – Board Liaison Dave Pracht (assistant Director of Public Works), Mayor Mike Clement, Board Chairman Mike Stemmler, Board Member Nancy Miller, Board Member Jane Sharp, Alderman John Dodge, Recreation Supervisor Stephanie Hardesty, and Urban Forestry Consultant Mark Halpin, Board Member Mathew Broderick,

**Approve Minutes from April 5th, 2022 Tree Advisory Board Meeting** – approved

### Old Business -

1. Arbor Day 2022 Report– Parks Staff

*Stephanie Hardesty gave the update: All the trees were taken, the event went well, and will be a similar format next year. Very windy day, which forced things to move inside, Mayor Clement commends the staff's flexibility. The kids crafts area will likely be outside next year, or in a pavilion.*

2. 2021-2022 TRIM Grant Update (Ash Tree Removal in Parks) – Mark Halpin & Parks Staff

*Mark Halpin gave the update: All trees were removed in time and the MDC reimbursement funds were received. Mark commended Brian Elliot and his staff for getting the removals done last-minute with limited staff.*

### New Business

1. New 2022-2023 TRIM Grant & Community Conservation Grant Application

a. La Bonne Pkwy Bradford Pears – Mark Halpin and Dave Pracht

*Dave Pracht gave some background on the proposed removals at LaBonne Pkwy, which came up as a potential project in the last meeting.*

*Mark Halpin described the grant proposal - city staff will remove smaller trees and a contractor will handle larger trees. A \$25K TRIM grant has been requested.*

*Mark spoke with Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, and if Manchester purchases and/or acquires free trees from them they will find volunteers to plant them. He suggests purchasing 15 gallon trees at \$90/each as they will be larger, but some species might work in 3 gallon trees which would be free.*

*The need to discuss the project with the trustees of the neighborhood came up and this will be addressed in their next meeting. Concerns about losing all of the trees might need to be addressed.*

*Mark suggested working with the trustees and residents on the replanting list to build some good will and make sure they're happy with the results.*

b. MODOT property - invasive species around bridge between Hwy 141 & Old Meramec Station Rd. [Click Here to see Property – Mark Halpin & Dave Pracht](#)

*Dave Pracht gave some background on the property. Mark Halpin described the grant, administered by the Missouri Department of Conservation for removing invasive species and restoring natural areas. He received bids for doing the work: removal of vegetation was between \$15-20K, and with re-seeding with a native seed mix, erosion control and follow-up stewardship the project cost is around \$30K. The city would have to commit to maintaining the area for 10 years, and so follow up maintenance would be required and simply clearing the area will not suffice.*

*The project will be discussed with the board of aldermen to determine the city's willingness to commit that much money to the project. In the meantime Mark Halpin will submit the grant proposal as there is no commitment required for merely submitting it.*

## 2. Continuing Tree City USA & Growth Awards – [Mark Halpin](#)

*Mark Halpin presented his plan to achieve Growth Award status in perpetuity. The application has a 10 point system, with 10 points being needed for the award. Many 3 and 4 point activities can be done each year. We went over the plan below:*

### **A3 - Grant Applications - 3 Points**

*BUDGETS - ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR*

*Two or more applications for grant funding were submitted (not necessarily awarded) during the year to accomplish specific community forestry projects or programs.*

*Documentation*

*ON APPLICATION list and describe purpose for the two or more grant applications submitted*

*UPLOAD optional*

*8-16 hours DRG time*

### **B6 -Tree Inventory Portion - 3 Points**

*TREE INVENTORY ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR*

*During the year, a portion of the public tree-by-tree inventory was completed or updated and entered in the management system.*

*Documentation*

*ON APPLICATION describe area surveyed, tree numbers, percent of total trees*

*UPLOAD required: pdf of summary data report*

8-16 hours DRG time

**D11 - Annual Risk Survey - 4 Points**

TREE RISK MANAGEMENT ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR

*During the year, city staff performed a 'limited visual' survey of public trees in (at least) high-priority zones, as mapped in Tree Risk Management plan (see C8-f), in order to identify potential hazards (follows ANSI A300 Part 9 & ISA BMP for Tree Risk Assessment).*

*Documentation*

*ON APPLICATION summarize survey methods, areas surveyed, tree problems documented*

*UPLOAD optional*

8-16 hours DRG time

**E2 -Departmental Communication -3 Points**

COLLABORATION ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR

*During the year, the city held one or more meetings among city departments (such as city manager, engineering, planning, forestry, parks, public works, water, streets, transportation, etc.) to coordinate urban forestry policy or project activities such as planting, moving, or protecting trees on public or private property.*

*Documentation*

*ON APPLICATION summarize meetings, topics covered, and departments included*

*UPLOAD optional*

0-4 hours DRG time

*(This information will be forwarded to the board)*

3. Ash Tree Removal Enforcement – P & Z Staff

*Residents have been notified that they are in violation and must treat or remove ash trees on their right-of-way. It is expected that there will be about 30 violations, there's been a good deal of compliance so far.*

4. Ash Tree Financial Assistance Program – Dave Pracht

*Low income homes are eligible for funding to remove ash trees by way of a program passed by the Mayor and board of aldermen. Refer interested residents to Dave Pracht. Due to concerns over other hazardous trees, the program will possibly be extended to hazardous non-ash trees. So far the only application is someone with a hazardous pin oak.*

5. Other Topics

*Poison hemlock - Dave Pracht is wondering if anyone has experience with it, as a resident is concerned that some is growing in their yard. Mark Halpin, John Plowman and Todd Streiler are going to the site on Thursday afternoon.*

*Mark Halpin described the plant as resembling queen anne's lace and has only recently become a plant of concern in the area. It is toxic to handle but typically only lethal when ingested.*

Next Meeting is October 4, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

**Adjournment**

*Board adjourned at 6:20pm*