

Minutes
Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission
April 27, 2016

Members Present: , Jansen Litter, John Kutney, Todd Wales, Alex Teass, Andrew Heckaman, Bobbi Strangfeld, Corrie Carswell, Al Delgado (Council Representative), and Mike Lippert (Staff Representative)

Others Present: Brad Bonham

Minutes of March 30, 2016

Todd motioned to approve and Alex seconded; all approved.

Reports from Subcommittees

Street Trees: working on a memo concerning the issues with the recently planted street trees.

Green Areas Trust: still working on drafting criteria for accepting new GAT properties.

Public Planting: Terry is pleased with the perennial designs submitted, not sure how many, if any will be planted this year. Corrie and Bobbie still need to meet to create a maintenance plan for 800 Oak.

Old Business

Promoting/ Thanking City Workers for Their Excellent Work: Where would this take place? NextDoor? E-blast? Pamphlet to distribute as street trees are pruned? Could they refer unhappy citizens to a member of UFBC? John noted that four Public Works employees are pursuing their certified arborist qualification since attending the young tree pruning.

Welcome Andrew Heckaman: new member of UFBC.

Arbor Day this Friday, 3:15 p.m. at the Middle School cafeteria.

Annual Report: Jansen showed us the draft of the annual report he will present to Council May 16. Asked for information to fill in the gaps. Will send a link to the folder so we can finalize. Send updates by May 4. Great job, John.

Awards: how many do we want to award? Six is our target. Discussed the front yard stipulation. Possibly still want to keep the flexibility of having nominations of rear yard nominations. Ask that nominations include a photo. Subcommittee will receive the nominations, take photos, possibly pare down the list, and present to the Committee.

Corrie, Andrew, and Terry. Send photos to Andrew. Awards are open now, need to promote in May and gather internal awards. At June meeting we will vote on winners. Promote in e-blast with link to form.

Bobbi mentioned the tree and landscape workshop hosted by UFBC. 30 people attended, three experts answered many questions, and people are interested in having future events like this. Bobbi and/or John will write a report/summary.

Rolling Calendar: Brad explained the rolling calendar. Jansen would like to use this or something similar to help us keep track of and plan for upcoming events. It would be used as a template. Brad will administer the calendar and the rest of us will be able to contribute as commenters.

Make A Difference Day: Bobbi and Gayle Ficken-Clark planted 1,100 trees last year on MADD and submitted a blurb about it to Newman's Own and Gannett News, and won a \$10k grant for Taking Root! Bobbi and Gayle will be receiving the award in Washington DC in May. We can all be proud that the Cincinnati area including Wyoming is garnering national attention as Tree City and Taking Root/MADD participants.

Mike showed us our new Tree City flag.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Corrie Carswell

Attached: John Kutney's article written for Wyoming Living about the tree and landscape workshop.

Wyoming Tree & Landscape Workshop Held April 9th

While there was snow on the ground that morning outside, it was green inside. The workshop covered all things green (or red, or yellow, or purple) in the garden and landscape. About 30 Wyoming residents attended the event held at the Wyoming Recreation Center, asking questions about planting practices, how to control invasives, minimizing deer damage, best tree or shrub for a specific location, etc. The outstanding panel of experts handling all these questions included: Corrie Carswell – Cincinnati Parks horticulturist and Wyoming Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission member, Bennett Dowling – Cincinnati Civic Garden Center Horticulturist, Kurt Goldick – Great Parks of Hamilton County Assistant Landscape Mgr, and Bobbi Strangfeld – Master Gardener and Wyoming Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission member. We spent over 2 hours talking all things trees and landscape. What a great way to kick-off the spring planting season.

Thanks to the Civic Garden Center, Great Parks, Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum, the Wyoming Rec Center, and the Wyoming Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission for supporting this event.



This was the scene outside on the morning of April 9th as the Tree & Landscape Workshop was going on inside!



An engaged audience during the Tree & Landscape Workshop



The questions didn't stop after the workshop ended as our experts continued to share their knowledge. Bennett, Kurt, and Corrie talking with workshop participants.