



Tree Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday October 2nd 2023 at 5:00 PM
City Hall Conference Room A213

In Attendance:

John Easley City of Noblesville – Urban Forester
Ashley Mulis Board Member – President
Jennifer Roberts Board Member – Noblesville Common Council Liaison & Co-President

City Department Liaisons:

Christina Miller Street Department

Absent:

Leslie Taljaard Board Member – Resident
Chad Lindemood Board Member – Resident

Guests: None

Quorum? YES

Call to order at 5:01 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Non-Reverting Tree Fund Balance \$4,227.34

Old Business:

Tree Planting Grant Program:

Planning for this continues. The draft documents have been prepared & submitted to the city for review. City legal is reviewing.

UDO Revision and Tree Preservation/iTree:

Previously, there was a discussion about what items the tree board could contribute (if a conversation with city agencies occurs about potential Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) update). The goal is to come up with ideas that could solve current problems regarding tree planting & maintenance as well as increase efficiency of city operations. A list of items will be compiled by this board and presented to city staff (in a lunchtime, collaborative meeting) for further discussion.

Discussed some areas that may be included in lunch & learn discussion. A formal agenda will follow soon.

Lunch & Learn meeting has been tentatively scheduled for November 29th from 11:30-12:30. (date changed since previous meeting minutes)

New Business:

- Urban Forester Report – provided by UF (John) & provided here.

- Committee Report
 - The Education & Outreach committee met last month regarding the Tree Planting Grant program general requirements and grading matrix. Work will continue at our next committee meeting.

Open Floor

No comments.

Close of meeting was complete at 6:20 PM.

MOTION by Jennifer

Move to adjourn.

Seconded by John and carried without dissent.

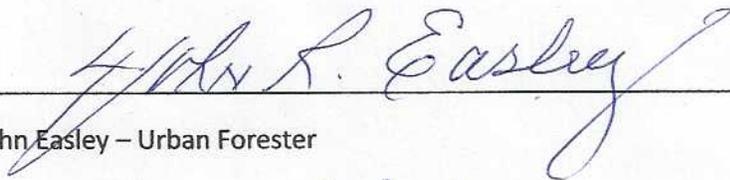
The next Urban Forestry board meeting will be on:

Monday November 6th, 2023 at 5pm in Noblesville City Hall Room A213.

There will be board meetings each month for the rest of the year.

The next committee meeting date is: October 9th at the Noblesville Street Dept.

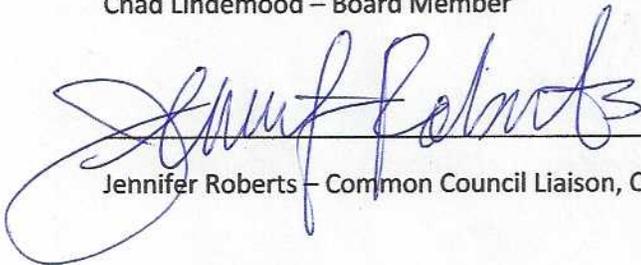
Approved by:


_____ on 11/6/2023
John Easley – Urban Forester


_____ on 11/6/2023
Ashley Mulis - President

_____ on 11/6/2023
Leslie Taljaard – Board Member

_____ on 11/6/2023
Chad Lindemood – Board Member


_____ on 11/6/2023
Jennifer Roberts – Common Council Liaison, Co-President & Secretary

Urban Forester Report

Noblesville Tree Board Meeting: October 2, 2023

1. Engineering Projects: All completed for 2023 except possibly Old Town (below). For 2024 and beyond The Engineering Department will be attempting to include street tree and stump removals in their contracts as part of contractual services.
2. Engineering Project: Old Town (South of Cherry St, North of Pleasant Street, between 10th Street and 19th Streets) 12 trees still to be removed w/stumps and LOTS OF PRUNING. Additionally, approximately 23 additional trees to be removed along 10th street between Cherry Street and Chestnut Street. For the 10th street section, trees have been tagged but residents not yet informed. Will likely not move further until 2024. No brick sidewalks involved, just concrete. Possible panels along 10th with stamped brick pattern.
3. I have met with HOA groups at Pebblebrook Communities and also with Stoney Creek of Noblesville. I have also had many discussions with the HOAs at Havenwood, Retreat at Mill Grove, and Merion of Noblesville.
4. The Monthly email info sheet to HOA and Property Management group representatives with information regarding street trees: October-Information on Evergreen Fall Needle Drop, Fall/Winter pruning and ROW Encroachment.
5. The Noblesville Tree Ordinance is being reviewed by the Planning Department, which would prefer a total overhaul of the document. That has been underway since February. I have been invited to a meeting on October 27th regarding this update.
6. I have organized street tree work orders into these categories: Tree Removals: Low, Medium, and High Priorities; Trimming, and Stump Removals (by sections of the City). The plan moving forward is for the crew each month is: 1st week: Stumps, 2nd week: High Priority, 3rd week: Medium Priority, 3rd week: Low Priority, 4th week: Pruning, 5th week: catch-all. Subdivision street tree clearance pruning will still be December, January, and February on a 5 year rotation.
7. Christina's work of constantly updating the GIS Street Tree Inventory has allowed us to be more proactive on dead tree removals.
8. Start to Finish Landscaping is one of the companies licensed to work on City ROW's and have been very good at communicating on developer installs (at Havenwood and Merion).

GOALS FOR URBAN FORESTRY 2023

I have set goals to achieve for this year regarding functions of the Urban Forestry Section as below. Current turn around time impacted by 7 months of Engineering Projects and High wind on June 29th.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>CURRENT TURN AROUND</u>	<u>NEW GOAL</u>
Tree Removals	14 months	6 months
Tree Pruning	14 months	6 months
Stump Grinding	19 months	6 months
Storm Damage	8 hours	8 hours
Inspection response	24 hours	24 hours
Tree Planting	#150/yr	#200/yr
Neighborhood pruning	5 years	5 years
Updating GIS Tree Inventory	Continual process	Continual
Licensing of businesses	never	Starting 2023
Updating of publications/manuals/lists	variable	As needed/annually reviewed