



Tree Advisory Committee
Monday, January 12, 2015
Meeting Minutes
At City Hall
7:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Section 19.82 of the Wisconsin Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Tree Advisory Committee of the City of Fitchburg, Dane County Wisconsin, will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 12, 2015 in the Meeting Room at the Fitchburg City Hall, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711 to consider the following:

- **Call to Order**
Called to order at 7:11 PM. In attendance: Rod Bina, Terrell Brock, Chairperson, Diane Dillet, Melinda Douglass, Jeremy Hecht, Ed Bartell, City Forester, Laura Lorentz, LTE Parks and Forestry Assistant.
- **Approval of Minutes – November 17, 2014**
Douglass moved to approve, Dillet second, minutes approved.
- **Public Appearances - Non Agenda Items**
None.
- **Communication**
Bartell discussed:
 - Splash Pad tree-spade planting is completed with six medium-sized trees planted using a \$7800 donation.
 - Awarded a 2015 DNR Urban Forestry Matching Grant.
 - Future EAB plan discussed among City Staff. This was then discussed with the Park Commission. Questions were raised about the effects of the EAB treatment pesticides on woodpeckers.
 - A Tree City Growth Award application was submitted but is unlikely to be awarded. One requirement of the Growth Award is to spend more money on urban forestry each year - the City did not spend more this year than last year.
 - Restoration plans for the Tower Hill Greenway are under development. The next steps in the process are to complete the planting plan and set lath at the possible planting sites for trees and shrubs.
 - The following management areas are to be pruned this winter: McGaw Park pine trees, Seminole Hills Estates, Lacy Heights, Orchard Pointe, Clayton, Rimrock, and the Highlands of Seminole.
 - The Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey will be posted on January 12th, closed on February 6th and analysis completed by February 19th.
 - The 2015 Spring Planting Plan and RFP to be completed by mid-January. Bartell estimates about 100 trees to be planted this spring with an additional 50 to 60 trees planted in the Tower Hill Greenway.
 - EAB treatment plan for the last one-third of the public trees in Fitchburg to be completed by mid-March.
- **Review and Approve Agenda**
 - Bartell asked to table this discussion until next meeting. Douglass moved to approve, Bina second, motion approved.
 - Douglass moved to approve the agenda as changed, Hecht second, agenda approved.
- **Discussion: Arbor Day/Migratory Bird Day Celebration**
The 2015 Arbor Day/Migratory Bird Day Celebration was discussed with an agenda to be set by mid-March:
 - Tree planting with the mayor - reach out to boy scouts and/or girls scouts to participate.
 - We will invite the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI) to return again this year.

- Bina is writing and coordinating a short skit based on various tree species with students from Eagle School. There has been talk of performing the play at the Arbor Day/Bird Day celebration. Bina will know by Spring if this is going to take place.
 - i. 25 characters in the play, all portrayed by Eagle School students.
 - ii. Could perform on the stage at Kid's Crossing or in the park shelter.
 - iii. The play should be performed before REGI.
 - iv. Could advertise through the Rec Serv list and other appropriate email lists.
- **Discussion: Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey**
 The Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey was reviewed and the implementation plan discussed. The following changes were suggested to the survey:
 - Include information on where to return completed paper-copy surveys
 - Q5 - add 'grass' to 'Reed canary'
 - Q8 - add 'Not applicable' response option
 - Q12 - remove
 - Q19 - take care of some typos in this question
 - Q21 - replace 'park' with 'urban forest and park'. Add 'Coordination and training will be provided as necessary'.
 - In the future, consider hiring a professional translator to do the English to Spanish translation. It may be worthwhile to ask someone at a local middle school to assist.
 The following recommendations were made to the implementation plan:
 - Utilize water utility email list to advertise survey.
 - Place a sign at the Tax Collection window.
 - Use a formal 'Sender' email address such as 'The City of Fitchburg' to send out the survey as opposed to a personal email address.
 - The subject line of the email should read something along the lines of 'Short Tree Survey'.
 - At the bottom of the survey, ask recipients to share this email and information with other residents of Fitchburg.
- **Discussion: Date for Public Informational Meeting**
 The following are tentative dates for the Public Information Meeting - March 24th, or 26th. This will occur after the March TAC meeting, scheduled for March 16th.
- **Discussion: Revision of Five Year Urban Forest Management Plan**
 - Table by motion until next meeting.
- **Future Agenda Items**
- **Adjournment**
 Douglass moved to adjourn, Bina second, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM. The next meeting will be Monday, February 23, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

NOTE: It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other government bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Fitchburg City Hall, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711. 608-270-4200.