

City of Lake Saint Louis

Tree Board Minutes

August 19, 2014

"To educate the Lake Saint Louis community on the importance of trees"

Call to Order: 5:30 pm by Ann Finklang

Roll Call:

Members present: Ann Finklang, Chris Griffith, Roy Zirges and Joe Mulitsch

Aldermanic Liaison present: Karen Vennard. Alternates Vacant

Staff: Daren Nolken, Director Parks and Recreation, Margaret Kozozenski, Horticulturist Technician Skip Kincaid, Arborist Consultant with Davey's Resource Group.

Absent: Board member Dee Davenport

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: Chris Motioned to approve minutes of the June 2014 meeting. Motioned carried.

Guest speaker this month: None

Staff Report: Steve Schertel, Director of Community Development will brief the TB on changes to the Tree ordinance, landmark trees, section 245.040 at the September meeting.

Arborist Skip Kincaid:

Number of visits to determine if a tree is hazardous and can be removed: Over the last 2 years 22 homeowners have requested 27 landmark trees be removed, 19 were approved. 5 of those homeowners, which accounted for 8 of those trees were not approved at the time of inspection. In general the landmark tree removal process is working. Residents do not request permission to remove landmark trees unless they appear to be in bad shape.

Inspected other tree related issues: Trees in a required buffer yard that were in bad shape. The property owner is required to re-do part of the buffer area.

Reviewing/approving landscape design plans for commercial development: There were 2 such inspections, 1 set of plans must to be revised.

Recommended Tree list: The city's list was revised. Some cultivars that were disease prone were removed. The list is divided into small, medium and large trees. There is also a section on undesirable trees as well as species of trees that would not be approved on a landscaping plan.

Old Business

Status of the TRIM grant for Ash trees and inventory of trees: Most likely the City will receive the grant. This will allow the City to update the tree inventory and develop the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) plan. One of the options for EAB is biennial injections which do work if administered by a qualified technician.

Tree Keeper Software: Is being made available to the City. In a future meeting Skip will demo the program to the TB. It allows the City to track inventory and manage trees. There is also a mobile app.

New Business

Mulching trees in City Parks: On hold.

The TB has been invited to participate in the Fall Festival on Saturday September 13. The TB will be represented at the City's "environmental-related Board" table sponsored by Christian Environmental Services. The time commitment is 3 pm to 6:30 pm.

Board Discussion: Discussed getting seedlings for the fall festival but it was decided it would be better to do it for Arbor Day.

To Do List:

Identifying Landmark Trees in our Community

Adjourn: Chris motioned to adjourn. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm