St. Joseph Tree Board Meeting Minutes  
6:00 p.m. – 4th Floor Conference Room  
April 2, 2019  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Attendance (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members present:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Holland, Chairperson</td>
<td>11-0</td>
<td>January 6, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Ball</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>December 3, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Benz</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>December 17, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gregg Mrkvicka</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>January 3, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members absent:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Doug Stanton</td>
<td>8-3</td>
<td>January 3, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff present:</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Peggy Shaw, Code Enforcement Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carol Flury, Neighborhood Services Coordinator</td>
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Visitors – Lonnie Messbarger, Forester  
Martha Clark, Arborist  

Quorum established with four members present.  
John Holland opened the meeting.  

**Old Business:**  

Holland made a motion to approve the March 5, 2019 minutes. Motion by Benz and seconded by Mrkvicka. **VOTE:** Ball – Aye, Benz – aye, Mrkvicka – Aye. Ayes – 3, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0. **Motion Carried**  

Flury brought in the stickers for the 26th Year as a Tree City USA to be placed on signs coming into the City. Flury will place the sticker on the sign on Frederick Avenue, just past Walgreens. Ball will place the other sticker on the sign on North bound I-29 just before I-229.  

Messbarger reminded everyone that there are 4 requirements to become a Tree City. One is you must have a Tree Board, have a tree ordinance, must participate in a tree planting, such as Arbor Day and lastly spend at least $2.00 per capita on tree related items throughout the physical year.  

Holland spoke with Mr Lake, the Oak Grove School Vice – Principal regarding the tree planting for April 26, 2019 at 10:00am. The Mayor will be there with the Proclamation and the Tree
Board will be introduced. Holland would like Clark and Messbarger to visit the school and see where the best place to plant the tree would be.

Messbarger mentioned that KCPL really would like to donate a tree also. If Oak Grove would like to have 2 trees planted, KCPL could also donate one besides Earl May’s tree donation. If this be the case it was recommended to split the 4th graders into groups for each planting. If two trees are indeed needed, Holland will contact Dan Hegeman at KCPL. Holland mentioned that Craig at Earl Mays would like to plant an Oak tree.

The board then moved on to the previous recommendation of changing the Ordinance to 30 days for stump removal to present to the City Council. Flury advised the legal will put it into the proper wording.

Next issue was the insurance for tree contractors. Ball mentioned he had contacted JBLB Insurance and was told a ballpark figure for general liability is $24.00 per thousand dollars of coverage. Clark mentioned the ones she spoke with carry a million dollars worth of liability and it only cost them $1200.00. This is also what FEMA recommends. Clark mentioned that these contractors which carry these large amounts of insurance are for working in the public right of ways, not just in someone’s back yard. Holland said he spoke to an insurance agent and was told that the one that he insures, it is a $1200.00 minimum for a premium on a million dollar policy. This seems this is the norm for what FEMA is requiring.

Holland entered a motion to accept the proposal and present it to the City Council. The proposal should read: Tree Contractors need to provide at least a flat one million dollar policy of liability if working in a public right of way. Motion by Ball and seconded by Benz. VOTE: Ball – Aye, Benz – aye, Mrkvicka – Aye. Ayes – 3, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion Carried.

Clark mentioned a program “Plant More Trees.” When you plant a tree, you can go in and plot where it’s planted and have it listed. The goal is to plant one million trees by the year 2020. This would be a good way for the children to interact with planting the saplings they will be receiving on Arbor Day. Ball said he would bring his laptop to the April 13th event so that kids can see how this program works.

Benz wants the graphic checked that says “one million trees will eliminate 35,000 pounds of carbon.” Messbarger mentioned they are always conservative on their estimates. Benz may create a new graphic for the handout and he will send it to Flury.

A discussion was held regarding the 14 foot height of tree limbs over the street and 14 foot over the sidewalk or even 8 foot over the sidewalk. There are conflicting ordinances. Property maintenance using the 14 foot over both the sidewalk and the street. Benz said as a homeowner he sees it easier to keep a tree trimmed at 8 foot himself, rather than hiring a contractor to cut it up to the 14 foot height. Messbarger says it will not damage the tree to have it at 14 foot on the street side and 8 foot on the sidewalk side. Flury will bring the 14 foot and 14 foot ordinance to the next meeting so it can be properly discussed and possibly changed.
Flury provided handouts with suggestions of items to give to the kids for the April 13\textsuperscript{th} and April 26\textsuperscript{th} Events. Messbarger said to keep in mind there will probably be about 200 people go through in about 2 hours and half of those may be children. Items considered were tree tattoos, water bottles and even t-shirts. Messbarger believes he may have some pens to give out.

Holland brought up the Arbor Day Foundation Membership renewal information that was sent to the former supervisor. If renewed there is the option to get an assortment of mixed tree saplings or send no trees and use the donation for education project for school children or to plant trees in one of the nation’s forests devastated by fire. It was decided Flury would send it in with the “No trees” option.

Clark has created a “Do not plant tree list.” Clark recommends this be used as an appendix referred to in the ordinance so you don’t have to go through the whole revision of an ordinance process in order to change one tree on the do not plant list or add something to it.

Holland made a motion to make an addendum to the current ordinance to show the “Do Not Plant Street Tree List.” Mrkvicks made this motion that this will be a two part process. One is to ask to remove the list of trees you are allowed to plant and replace it with the list of trees you cannot plant. This was seconded by Ball. \textbf{VOTE:} Ball – Aye, Benz – aye, Mrkvicka – Aye, Ayes – 3, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0. \textbf{Motion Carried}

It was suggested that perhaps someone from the Legal Department come and sit in. Flury said she would check and see if Bryan Carter could come.

Holland mentioned Ball’s previous suggestion that the Tree Board become more visible and well known. For instance, out in the parkway cutting down invasive vines or planting more trees. Flury said the board can also speak at any of her Neighborhood Association meetings also.

Clark mentioned that the Sustainable Environment group wants to put the Tree Value signs back up and put effort into going out and measuring trees. She believes the green movement has finally arrived and this will help.

Holland suggests that at the upcoming event at the Conservation Department to split up into groups. Some people can work at the table handing out items and explaining the tree board and some can help Messbarger in handing out trees.

Holland said he would get ahold of Stanton to see if Sam’s Club donated any candy for the event.

Holland asked for a motion to adjourn. Benz made the motion and it was seconded by Ball.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Shaw, Recording Secretary