St. Joseph Tree Board Meeting Minutes
6:00 p.m. – 1st Floor Conference Room
May 7, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Attendance (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members present:</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Holland, Chairperson</td>
<td>12-0</td>
<td>January 6, 2020</td>
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<td>David Ball</td>
<td>4-0</td>
<td>December 3, 2021</td>
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<td>Daniel Benz</td>
<td>4-0</td>
<td>December 17, 2021</td>
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<td>Gregg Mrkvicka</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>January 3, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members absent:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doug Stanton</td>
<td>8-4</td>
<td>January 3, 2020</td>
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<td>Staff present:</td>
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<td>Peggy Shaw, Code Enforcement Clerk</td>
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<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.

The first order of business was to make a correction on last month’s minutes. It was noted that the minutes should read that the goal is one million trees planted by 2020, not 20 million trees. Holland asked for a motion to revise this. Mrkvicka made the motion and Benz seconded it. All others aye.

Old Business

Holland brought up the issue of the trees being trimmed 14 foot above the street and 8 foot above the sidewalk. A motion was needed to accept as written with the 14 foot above the street and 8 foot above the sidewalk. Benz made the motion to accept it as written and Ball seconded the motion. All others aye.

The next issue was that trees 35 feet from the corner need trimmed 14 foot above the street. As Messbarger mentioned you must use discretion on which trees to trim. Trimming some trees up 14 feet may leave just a trunk and a small amount of branches. Benz mentioned the purpose of this is to be able to see oncoming traffic. Ordinance 25-308 reads “no street tree shall be planted closer than 35 feet of any street corner or 20 feet from any alley corner. Measure from the point of the nearest intersecting curb, curblines or the edge of pavement. No street trees shall be
planted closer than 10 feet of any fireplug.” Holland is unsure on how to proceed with this issue without legal guidance. Flury spoke up that if we see it, it’s then reported to Property Maintenance and we will then make them cut it. Or a Fireman could see it and report it and a notice would be sent asking for it to be taken out. Clark said the ordinance was originally 25 feet from the corner and it was changed to 35 foot. These are trees that are already grown and she sees no reason to change that requirement and simply let Property Maintenance handle it. Clark believes this is not something the Tree Board needs to be concerned with. It was determined that this would be left alone for Property Maintenance to handle as they usually do.

New Business

Holland mentioned that he and Ball were at the Oak Grove Arbor Day Event and it went well. Messbarger and Clark were also in attendance. The children were really enjoying the event and tree planting. The Principal even mentioned he had never seen kids get so involved as they did at this event.

The Tree Board received a new Tree City USA sign to be put up somewhere in the city. A suggested location was the Parkway, possibly at the 5 way stop at the corner of Ashland and Corby Parkway. Holland asked for a motion. Ball made a motion to recommend to the Parks Department to install the sign at the corner of Ashland and Corby Parkway. Benz seconded the motion. All others aye.

Holland mentioned he would like to see Jeff Atkins, of the Parks Department, come to a Tree Board meeting. Holland would like to see if he has any suggestions on what he would like to do in the Parkway system.

Holland mentioned it is getting too late to plant trees. He suggested we have more education/communication for the Tree Board itself. This would include education on trees, planting trees and different trees to plant and where to plant them. A Forester coming in to speak was suggested. Holland brought up sawmills. Sawmills do not like City trees. There can be metal in the City trees and this will ruin their blades.

Dan mentioned he has at least five ash trees and right now they are healthy, but with the risk of the Ash Borer Beetles he is considering taking them down before they die so they can be turned in to something useful.

Ball asked other than amending any ordinances, what else does the Board need to do. Holland said we need to educate and communicate ourselves before going out into the community. He suggested Clark put on a class for us or Messbarger or someone from his group to come in and speak with the Board. He also mentioned the Sustainable Energy Group as a possibility. Clark said they are the Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee. Mrkvicka said he would like to have someone recommend which trees to plant. Usually people will go the big box stores and purchase any tree they like, not knowing if it is compatible with the area they are planting it at. Clark mentioned there is a tree keepers course and one of the components is the selection of trees, what to plant and how to decide where to plant it. Clark said she would be happy to put something together and address what to plant. Benz asked if we could notify the Newspaper and
have an article to get this out to the community. Also, invite the people from Lowes, Home Depot and Menards and have the person who manages that department to come and receive training and be able to train their associates. Ball also mentioned perhaps the focus should be on places like Manns and Earl Mays rather than the Menards and Home Depot type stores.

Holland believes the Tree Board needs to be more visible. Benz suggested a social media account. Holland mentioned the only one currently is through the paper and the City website. Flury wondered what would happen if we had an advertised announcement of the Education Seminar and that the public was welcome. Flury will ask Mary Robertson about putting it on the City’s social media sites when it is decided to have a seminar open to the public.

Ball asked if Clark could educate the big box stores and the public on what good trees to sell and buy. Clark said if educating the public such as homeowners associations about trees and the educating the stores, that is two different things they are trying to accomplish. She doesn’t believe that the stores selling the trees are going to be learning quite like the homeowner. Holland mentioned he could contact the big box stores and invite them to one of our meetings. Also include Moffett’s, Mann’s and Earl Mays since they may have information that could benefit us also.

Ball asked about a list of Neighborhood Associations. Flury will provide an active list of the Neighborhood Associations.

Holland suggested a test run for Clark to give a class and a Homeowner’s Associations could be invited. Clark suggested Museum Hill Association since they have had a tree inventory done and trees planted. Flury will check with them.

Holland also asked Messbarger to speak and educate the board with his knowledge.

Thank you cards were passed around for signatures to be sent to KCPL and Earl May.

Holland suggested next year for Arbor Day that a different school be considered. Even if it meant going to a smaller tree, other schools deserve to have a tree planted also.

It was discussed having the Neighborhood Association Education Seminar next month at River Bluff Brewery as they have a meeting room in the back. Benz will ask River Bluff Brewery about having the meeting there.

Ball said he had taken a trip down to the McBane Oak (the oldest tree in Missouri). They have paved a road next to it and it is not doing well. Messbarger mentioned paving a road within the dripline of a tree is not good for it. Ball said this issue could possibly be looked into it over time, locally.

Flury gave Messbarger the 2015 Tree Inventory. A company out of California was hired to do this through a Trim Grant. It does not include the entire city. It only includes the trees along the street. This information should still be good, but an event like an ice storm can definitely change
it. The 2015 tree inventory list was handed out to board members. The Tree Inventory is also on the City Website.

Flury will sent out decisions on the Neighborhood Association meeting net month.

Flury mentioned she had spoken with Doug Stanton and explained to him that the large amount of insurance needed for people cutting trees was only for street trees being cut, not trees on private property or regular homeowner’s trees in their yard. He was very glad to hear this.

Holland asked for a motion to dismiss the meeting. Benz made the motion and Ball seconded the motion. All in favor, aye.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Shaw, recording secretary.