

**MINUTES OF THE TREE COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT THE GREENFIELD DPW, ON THURSDAY,
July 9, 2015, AT 6:30 PM**

1. Joan Stevens, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM

**Meeting called to order
at 6:37 PM**

Roll Call:	Joan Stevens	Present
	Ald. Bruce Bailey	Present
	Michael Wendt	Present
	Becky Thorpe	Present
	Lew Silva	Excused
	Terry Krell	Present
	Dennis Fermenich	Present
	Dan Ewert	Present
	Rob Hansen	Excused

2. Approval of the May 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**Approval of 05/14/15
Minutes**

It was moved by Becky Thorpe, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the May 14, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Aldermanic Report

Aldermanic Report

Meijer project is beginning. Landscaping will be rather extensive. Plants have been chosen. Possibly putting in some irrigation for watering.

Amphitheater may get started fall of 2015 within Konkel Park. There was a donation of \$150,000.00. Volleyball courts will have to be moved, this needs to be done first as this is where the Amphitheater will be going. Also, there are plans for another shelter, like the one that is on Konkel Park's south end. Amenities to include food & rest rooms and possibly a splash pad or playground on the other side of the Farmer's Market and also another parking lot.

4. Superintendent of Public Works Report

Public Works Report

Dennis & Dan located a "mangled" grove of Ash on about 45th & Tesch where trees need to be removed. About 30 trees. These will be removed this winter.

Public Works is doing a lot of asphalt work with the new Asphalt Zipper & Paver. Completed a path for the Park & Rec Dept. at 116th St connecting to the previous path that a developer put in. Turned out very nice. Unfortunately, 3 Spruce trees had to be removed because they were right where the path was being put in. There was an area of about 15 feet that had been donated, and right in the center of that, is where the trees were located. Through the budget Park & Rec was given, this allowed Dennis to put in new trees. It is located at 116th & Cold Spring, going north.

Walking path at Jansen Park has also been re-done. Many residents have given positive feedback on both projects. The Asphalt Zipper & Paver will allow us the opportunity to go in and do projects & improvements on our park paths that are getting older and need to be updated. Plans on re-doing an overlay on the path down at Pond View Park.

Lots of complaints on hazard trees lately. Some City trees, some not. Public Works

is working through that, but this is really not our forestry time of year. Taking care of what has to be done and watching other issues brought to DPW attention.

5. Chair Report

Chair Report

- Greenfield Beautification Committee:
 - Completed the annual flower planting at City Hall June 6th
 - Co-sponsored Gardening Seminar with the Library. There were two topics: a gardening expert spoke on container gardening and the second speaker spoke about how to utilize tools for people that are disabled and or arthritic. Library gave plants to all attendees.
 - On June 27th they co-sponsored a bus tour to Rotary Gardens with recreation dept.
- Presently holding the Landscape Award Contest in the City of Greenfield covering the entire city and selecting winners from each of the 5 Greenfield districts.
- Joan received an invitation/entry form for golf outing for Mini-Golf at Konkell Park for Sat., Aug 15th. Tree Commission members are invited to join the event.
- Membership for Arbor Day Foundation (Lynn Jacob in DPW completed)
- Number of people in Joan's neighborhood that are allowing their grass to blow into the road and it is blocking the sewers. Dan Ewert suggested that next time the culprits mow their lawn Joan should call and he will go out to the location to address problem with resident.

6. City Forester's Report

City Forester's Report

Has not been able to start the displays at the Farmer's Market. He will be there this weekend, 7/12/15 with literature. Hopefully following weekend will have everything needed for a display & video.

EAB is popping up everywhere. Mike Wendt printed & distributed literature to his immediate neighborhood regarding EAB. Joel Kolster has begun injecting trees infected.

Over the last few years, specifically since 2012, all species of trees, there has been an increase in removals, more than usual. Combination of the draught in 2012, the winter's we've had, could be the reason why. It takes 2-4 years after a draught before you get past damage that could have been caused. Unfortunately, we have had more losses of trees due to this which cannot be attributed to insects, disease or vandalism. We have been removing trees with issues over the last several weeks, listing them & putting into the tree inventory. Any new trees and treatments done to existing trees have been entered into GIS. In the coming weeks there will be replacement of some trees in the medians. (6 have been taken out)

Joan suggested an EAB Awareness Week/Day with perhaps a proclamation at the Farmer's Market regarding EAB. Dennis has already been working on a tri-fold board displaying information regarding EAB in order to educate the public and schools.

September 20, 2015 will be when the special presentation (EAB Awareness Day) for EAB will be held at the Farmer's Market. Purple ribbons will be placed on trees at Konkell park and on trees being treated for EAB. Help will be needed to ribbon the trees prior to the presentation. Bruce will be checking with Rob Hanson and see if

we can get some help from students within the high school to do this.

7. Plans to apply for 2016 Grant

Currently working on. Nothing at this time.

**Plans to Apply for 2016
DNR Grant**

8. Tree Discussion and Decision regarding licensing for companies doing tree work in Greenfield.

Dennis is waiting for a call back from City Attorney in regard to where we stand as a city with upholding rules and regulations regarding licensing to stop tree service/ companies that are not licensed and may be performing unsafe work.

**Discussion regarding
licensing of Tree
Service Companies**

9. Suggested date & discussion items for next meeting: September 3, 2015

**Suggested Date for
Next Meeting**

10. Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Alderperson Bailey seconded by Ms. Thorpe, to adjourn the Tree Commission meeting at 7:44 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Kubacki
Clerk Typist
Division of Public Works

Date distributed: August 12 , 2015

