

**Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2014**

In Attendance:

Dave Colteryahn, chair
Greg LoBuono, vice-chair
Adam Sackenheim
Becky Montag
Tom Nault
Bob Schappacher, Parks and Recreation Representative
Rodney Spencer, Parks Board Liaison

Absent: Veronica Craig, Gwen Ritchie, Chuck Ullrich, Brian Deroo

Meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by chairperson Dave Colteryahn.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the November 5, 2014 meeting were approved with no corrections.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles: Adam explained that he had talked to Miami University about having some of their students help us do some tree inventory projects. He was told that they were filled for the 2015 year but that we could be put on list for the 2016 year. The board agreed.

Hours Spent on EC Activities: Dave/6, Greg/3, Gwen/13, Tom/15, Adam/4, Veronica/15, Becky/2, Rodney/3 These hours were a combination of the last two months.

Adopt-A-Roadway: Adam will be doing December's clean-up, and Becky has signed up to do Jan./Feb. and Tom has signed up to do March and April. Bob will have a sign-up sheet available for EC members next month to choose a two month slot for the remainder of the 2015 year.

Parks Board Report

Bob reported for Rodney that the main topic of discussion at parks board was a report from the golf subcommittee that had met at the golf course in the month of October. Rodney followed up with the board and explained why the subcommittee was formed and what was discussed during the meeting at the golf course.

Parks Department Report

Website Update: The stats from the website were presented to the board.

Creekside Tree Legacy: Bob reported that all trees from the fall planting have been planted except for one. All of the names have been attached to the memorial bronze plaque that is located in the park. The walking trail has been expanded out to the side walk. The total number of trees that have been planted so far is 14.

Dave discussed how he thought it would be helpful if the location of Creekside Park was written in the newsletter with the write up about the Living Legacy Tree Program. Bob said that he could make sure for the next newsletter that he would add that.

Harbin Park: The City is feeling the effects of the EAB infestation. Bob reported that he has taken down 19 of the 26 ash trees that were marked to be removed, from the park this fall, and an additional 25 to 30 will be marked for next year. These ashes were either at least 50% dead or are a danger because they overhang parking areas.

This culling process has opened up some spaces for legacy trees and several of these have already been filled up at Harbin Park.

Tree City Application: Bob informed the board that he had submitted all the necessary paper work and had uploaded it to the website for the City of Fairfield. Bob has also submitted all the paper work for the Growth Award for the 2014 year. There is a total of 10 points that are needed to accumulate to be able to apply for the Growth award each year.

Commissioner Reports

Milkweed: Dave asked if the milkweed was planted yet at Huffman Park and Bob had told him that it has been planted along with the Wildflower seeds that the Fairfield Parks Department had bought.

Recap on Meeting with Hamilton: Bob had reported that he had sent the minutes for the meeting to Mark Murray (the City of Hamilton representative) like he had requested. A discussion took place about how the next joint meeting will take place in May of 2015 in the City of Hamilton. Dave extended a big thank you to Greg for making initial contact with Hamilton and working out all the details of the meeting and thanks to Bob for all the prep work and information that was presented at the meeting the night of.

Other Business

Update of Tree Commission Academy: Tom discussed with the board that members Tom, Veronica and Gwen had attended the two day seminar of the Tree Commission Academy and briefly discussed all that was learned from attending the class. There were around 18 people from various communities that had attended that class. He said that there is the sophomore class that will be taken in the spring of 2015, which will also be held in the City of Hamilton.

Calendar:

Parks Board Meeting – Monday December 8th, 2014 at 6:00 pm, Joint meeting with City Council – City Building – Parks Master Plan
EC Meeting – January 7, 2015 at 6:00 pm, CAC

Adjournment: at 6:58 pm