

**Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2013**

In Attendance:

Dave Colteryahn, chair
Greg LoBuono, vice-chair
Veronica Craig, recording secretary
Tom Nault
Bob Schappacher, Parks and Recreation Representative

Absent: Brian DeRoo, Becky Montage, Mitch Rhodus, Chuck Ullrich

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by chairperson Dave Colteryahn.

Minutes: The minutes for May's meeting were approved with corrections to the July, August and September meeting dates.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles: Tom shared an article from the *Journal News* about the EAB. Unlike some earlier blights (such as those that attacked elms or chestnuts), this devastating pest doesn't seem to be sparing any trees in its path.

EC Activity Hours: Dave/1, Greg/9, Becky/2, Veronica/4.

Adopt-a-Roadway: Becky and Veronica did the clean-up on the Friday before Memorial Day. They were pleasantly surprised at the small amount of litter they picked up, perhaps due to the fact that residents had already gotten their yards ready for the holiday.

Greg and Tom will do the next clean-up sometime after the Fourth of July.

Parks Board Report

Bob Schappacher announced that Bob Breen will no longer be the EC's Parks Board Liaison. Rodney Spencer will be replacing Bob B., who will be working with the CAC. Rodney's information is on a new contact list the Bob S. has included in this month's meeting packet.

Last month Parks Board reevaluated assignments for chairpersons and committee people. They also reviewed monthly numbers for the activity trust fund and for golf and the concession stand.

Parks Department Report

Website Update: Bob included last month's statistics on the last page of the EC meeting packet. The numbers have gone up significantly, probably due to the warmer weather.

Oxford Tree Plaque Photos: Bob had photos of Oxford's tree plaques for the EC to consider for marking Memorial Grove trees. It is a centralized system that tags and identifies trees in an immediate area. The EC will look at this method of identification of trees and whom they honor. The Commission also really likes Dave's suggestion of metal spring bands which he saw and photographed in Japan.

Memorial Grove: Current memorial and honor trees are being planted in Harbin Park along the walking trail. This began as a Scout project and has become a popular choice to memorialize someone. The new park on Banker will give the City a designated space to plant such trees.

Naming the new memorial park is a matter that must be decided soon. The Parks Board did not come up with any new name suggestions. Bob would like to have an official name chosen by the August meeting because money has already been budgeted for the sign. The EC is concerned that the word "memorial" does not acknowledge a broader use to honor those who are not deceased. Dave issued a challenge to EC members: bring three new name suggestions each to the next meeting for discussion and final recommendation.

Huffman Park: Ben has requested help from the EC in identifying the trees in Huffman Park that have lost their tags. Dave, Greg, Tom and Veronica offered to help. Ben will e-mail with details.

Other Business

Library Grounds Tree Identification: The EC was asked by the staff at the library to provide a list of their trees and species, as patrons have made inquiries and there is no identification reference. Bob brought in an aerial map, but it was too small to mark individual trees. He will get a larger one to make the job easier.

Meeting Changes: Due to the holiday, the EC voted not to meet in July. The next meeting will be on August 7th at the CAC. Dave will try to make arrangements for the EC to hold their October 2nd meeting at the Water Treatment Plant.

Calendar:

Parks Board Meeting – June 18, 2013 at 6:00 pm, CAC
EC Meeting – August 7, 2013 at 6:00 pm, CAC

Adjournment: at 7:05 pm.