

**Environmental Commission Meeting
November 4, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 by Chairperson Dave Colteryahn

In Attendance

Dave Colteryahn, chair
Greg LoBuono, vice-chair
Veronica Craig
Becky Montag
Tom Nault
Rita Rings
Gwen Ritchie
Bob Schappacher, Parks and Recreation Representative

Absent

All present. Two positions remain open following resignations.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the October 7th, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

Parks Department P.T. Naturalist

Bob introduced Amy Hall-Spegal as the Parks Department's new part-time naturalist. Amy gave a brief overview of her extensive experience and shared advanced copies of the Harbin Park and Huffman Park Winter/Spring Programs for 2016. Her qualifications, dedication, and enthusiasm were appreciated.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles

Dave mentioned the "Trees in Trouble" program scheduled for November 22nd on CET. Gwen and Rita shared articles and information about understanding tree disease, how an HOA is trying to limit access to a giant tree, the fact that there are over some two trillion trees on earth, and the news that the monarchs are arriving at their over-Winter site in Mexico.

Hours Spent on EC Activities

Dave/1, Greg/1, Roni/0.5, Becky/1, Tom/5, Rita/0, Gwen/1.5

Adopt-A-Roadway

Gwen policed Muskopf in October. Cigarette butts remain the major irritant—she picked up 332 this last time around.

Parks Board Report—Bob Schappacher

Nothing to report this month.

Parks Department Report—Bob Schappacher

Bob is preparing the Tree City USA packet which is due by December 4th. He requested any pictures from the 2015 Home Expo that might be available.

Home Expo 2016 has been moved one month later and is scheduled for Saturday, May 14th.

The open EC seats are being advertised in the next City-wide quarterly newsletter.

Bob shared an email from Rodney Spencer's wife Linda expressing her and her son's thanks for the tree planted in Rodney's honor at Creekside Park.

The health of the plantings in the Honor Grove at Creekside Park will be reviewed in the Spring with the intent to replace diseased or dead trees.

Nineteen stumps have been ground out at Harbin Park and non-residential stump grinding is in process along Augusta Blvd.

There are plans to introduce City visibility on social media after the first of the year to improve event promotion.

There are also plans to introduce digital TV monitors at the CAC.

The Adopt-A-Tree nursery at Huffman Park is slow in getting off the ground.

Commissioner Reports

There were no new nominees for the Friends of Fairfield Forest award.

Other Business

At Tom's request, Dave Butsch will be invited to attend an EC meeting early in 2016. The December EC meeting has been cancelled.

Calendar

Parks Board Meeting—Tuesday, November 17th, 2015 at 6:00 pm @ CAC

December EC Meeting has been cancelled

Next EC Meeting—Wednesday, January 6th, 2016 at 6:00 pm @ CAC

TCA Senior Class—Monday, February 29th, 2016, 9 am to 3 pm in Hamilton

TCA Graduation—Monday, March 14th, 2016, 10 am to 2 pm in Hamilton

Home Expo—Saturday, May 14th, 2016

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm