
MEETING MINUTES
FRANKLIN TREE COMMISSION
CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ROOM
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2010 – 5:30 P.M.

Committee Members

Alderman Ann Petersen, Chair	P
Beth Adams	P
Scott Harrison	P
Skip Heibert	P
Kim Hoover	A
Michael Johnson, MTEMC	P
Martin Shaw	P

Other Attendees

Todd Snackenber, Arborist	P
Linda Fulwider, Board Recording Secretary	P

1. CALL TO ORDER

Alderman Ann Petersen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Marty Shaw moved to approve the January 25, 2010 meeting minutes. Seconded by Michael Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizen Comments

Abby Ayers, Hannah Leathers, and Alex Searce, 6th grade students at Freedom Intermediate School participating in the *Siemens We Can Change the World* Challenge that gives students the opportunity, tools and inspiration to become those agents of change were in attendance to present a proposal to the Commission. Middle School student teams from across the country are challenged to create sustainable, reproducible environmental improvements in their local communities. The students offered their proposal for Riparian Restoration: "We would like to plant roughly 10 trees including River Birch, Silky Dogwood, and Indigo Bush. All of the trees that we would like to plant will be of native species. The total price of these trees is approximately \$900 if they are purchased from Growild. We will plant the larger trees roughly 10-15 feet from the bank. The smaller trees will be roughly 5 feet from the bank. The trees will be placed in a natural-looking pattern. This project will take place at Jim Warren Park. This project will result in long-term gains including an increase in property value, natural beauty, a more stable bank, more clear water, a decrease in invasive animal species, and an increase in oxygen levels." Their request to the Tree Commission: "We respectfully request that the city tree commission donate the amount needed to cover the cost of the trees. We will do the labor alongside Mr. Todd Snackenber. We can begin as soon as our request is granted."

Commission members were impressed with the thoroughness of the work done on the project. The students were advised the Commission would give them an answer by the March 15, 2010 deadline.

4. Arbor /Earth Day 2010

Mr. Snackenber reported on booth signup and named several participants. ArborCare will again demonstrate tree climbing. Donated trees will be given away. Brian Rucker will present the Tree City and Tree City Growth awards. Conductor Jack will present two 45 minute programs for children. Deanna Scheffel developed a flyer. Andrew Orr is working with the Harpeth River Watershed regarding canoe trips. The Franklin Battlefield group will conduct tours of Ft. Granger. Crystal Bishop has a stormwater program. Communications will be contacted regarding publications.

It was emphasized there could be no selling of goods during the event. Giveaways only. Mr. Snackenber will

contact the Street Department to see if they can make a sign to post in Pinkerton Park at least three weeks before the event. Everything is coming together well.

5. Lecture Series Discussion

Beth Adams reported Irene Perry, Warner Parks Nature Center, is interested in providing a program this fall. She was recommended by the WCMGA. Mike Berkey can speak in June or July on how to build your own rain garden. Todd Snackenberg will seek a speaker for a May lecture.

Scott Harrison moved to engage Mike Berkey for a July 14, 2010 Lecture. Seconded by Marty Shaw. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Arborist Report

Mr. Snackenberg was told the Columbia Avenue Streetscape will not use Tree Bank funds; the contractor will pay. Alderman Petersen said that could mean the City pays. Mr. Snackenberg will check further.

Harlinsdale Tree Farm: 210 of the 300 trees delivered are in the ground, 10 rows of 30 trees behind the pond. Ninety more are due and will be planted by the end of this week.

Tree Bank balance as of February 22, 2010: \$161,410.29 (includes all pledged funds).

7. Other Business

Request for Tree Bank Funds for Riparian Restoration

Beth Adams moved to use \$900 of Tree Bank Funds for Riparian Restoration as requested by the 6th grade students from Freedom Intermediate School. Seconded by Scott Harrison.

Mr. Snackenberg related the teacher told him the students are excited about this project. They did a lot of research and know what they are doing. Ms. Adams wondered if there could be some sort of marker depicting the partnership between the school and Tree Commission.

Alderman Petersen asked that the request be run by the Stormwater Committee to make sure it is compliance with requirements they are developing. She asked if the Indigo Bush is a tree since the Tree Bank can only be used for trees. Marty Shaw suggested substituting Bottle Brush Buckeye although it would cost a bit more.

Ms. Adams amended the motion to substitute Bottle Brush Buckeye for Indigo Bush with the intent to fund up to \$1,200 for trees if the project meets with Stormwater criteria. Mr. Harrison concurred. Amended motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Snackenberg will notify the school of the change and of the intent to fund.

10. ADJOURN

Mr. Scott and Mr. Heibert moved and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned @ 6:09 p.m.

Ann Petersen, Chair

Minutes prepared by Linda Fulwider, Board Recording Secretary, City Administrator's Office -10/13/2010 12:55 PM