

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL  
CITY OF WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI  
WEDNESDAY, July 21, 2021  
Parks Maintenance Facility**

Those in attendance included Committee Members Dave Wehmeyer, Bill Davit and Franz Meyer, John Steffens, Gus Raeker, Bob Briscoe, Josh Wargo - Horticulturalist/Arborist. Those not present included Wayne Dunker Parks and Recreation Director and Councilman Mark Hidritch and Duane Reed.

**Agenda Item #1: Call Meeting to Order** – Meeting was called to order by Mr. Wargo at 6:05 pm.

**Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Item #3: Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Committee Member Steffens, seconded by Committee Member Raeker to accept the September 16, 2020 minutes as submitted. Motion was approved.

**Agenda Item #4: Communications from Audience** – None

**Agenda Item #5: Parks Report** – Mr. Wargo reported the following:

- a. Strom Damage Clean Up – From the storms a few weeks ago, we had eight trees that came down in the park system and a countless number of limbs. Most of the damage was along the riverfront trail. Most of the parks are cleaned up we still need to do some pruning here and there were limbs broke out. The Riverfront trail still has debris along the side of it in places that we hope to clean up as soon. But it will probably be after the fair
- b. Illegal Tree Removal – The City is currently working on a plan with contractors and the Core of Engineers to remove the down trees in the wetland. No legal updates to report

**Agenda Item #6: Council Report** – None

**Agenda Item #7: Old Business**

- a. None

**Agenda Item #8: New Business**

- a. Crestview Water Tower Property - Half of the previous water tower property is now going to become a park and the Parks Department will be officially taking over maintenance on the property. The Parks Department contractual mowing company will be mowing the park.

Vandalism – The damage that occurred at the Crestview property last month was reported to the group and pictures were shown. Bill Davit said he has done a little corrective pruning a few times when he was onsite.

- b. Ash Tree Treatment - Craig's Tree service will be treating nine park Ash Trees. One Tree in Main Park near the new Playground, one tree in the Fairgrounds by the North gate, five trees around Lions Lake and one in the Valley below Lions lake

We will plan to treat 9ish more next year since it is every other year treatment and we have set funding in our budget. Additional trees will be re-evaluated next year to determine which additional ones will be treated

- c. Fall Communitree Grant Project -Enrolment just opened up today. Locations we are looking at include Main Park between the new playground and Ronsick field. Near the soccer parking lot, near the expansion area of the lot. We had to remove five trees - 3 Maples, River Birch and a Kentucky Coffee Tree.
- d. First Parkway Ride of Way - We will be removing two trees from first pkwy ROW sometime in August and are currently working on a game plan for the ROW.
- e. Jean Giono's, THE MAN WHO PLANTED TREES book - Franz Meyer brought a copy of the book for everyone. Thank you Franz. The group discussed how we could distribute these books at an event in the future since UFC and the author of the book would like to spread similar messages. The group discussed having a possible plant sale with trees from Forest Keeling Nursery. When you buy a tree, you get a book as well. An idea discussed was to hold a tree sale event at Crestview Water Tower to celebrate that area becoming a park and so people become more familiar with native plants. Event to take place possibly in the first part of October.

**Agenda Item #9: Next Meeting** – Wednesday, September 15 at 6:00pm

**Agenda Item #10:** Adjournment - A motion was made by Committee Member Steffens, seconded by Committee Member Raeker to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm. Motion was approved.

**MINUTES SUBJECT TO COMMITTEE APPROVAL**