

CITY OF CAMDEN PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES – March 5, 2013

Members Present: Al Reed and Jane Miller

Members Absent: Cheryl Major (excused absence), Deborah Davis (excused absence), Susan White (excused absence), Sue Truesdale (excused absence) and Dan Cantey.

Staff Present: Liz Gilland, Urban Forester

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, APRIL 2nd @ 4PM (Training Room downstairs at City Hall)

The meeting was opened at 5:05 p.m. by Liz Gilland. The minutes from the February 2013 meeting were not approved as a quorum was not present.

CITY UPDATE:

* The City received a PARD grant for approx. \$3,500 and has ordered a swing set for City Arena Park. The new grant writer, Amy Stenger, who submitted the most recent grant proposal will be submitting another PARD grant proposal for the coming fiscal year requesting more funds for City Arena Park playground equipment.

* The Urban Forester recently met with Geoff Eastman, a Certified Playground Equipment Inspector with PlayWorld Systems to review the condition of our playground equipment in five of the city parks. Overall, the equipment looks good and there are a few minor repairs to be made.

* The City has contracted with URS, an engineering and architectural firm to work on street designs for Commerce Alley, Rutledge Street, Haigler Lane and Broad Street. Liz has met with URS individually and at the many public meetings recently held to provide input regarding trees and other vegetative landscaping.

* The Urban Forester will be coordinating with a local Boy Scout Troop for a volunteer service work day on Saturday, April 20th. Approximately 30 to 50 people will participate in one of three projects: trail rehabilitation at Kendall Lake Park, build and install two picnic tables at Armory Park and install ornamental plants in above-ground containers at the Town Green.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Kirkwood Park Improvements: The see-saw for Kirkwood Park has been delivered to the Public Works Dept. and the Street Dept. hopes to get it installed in the coming weeks.

Margot Rochester Landscape Award (MRLA): All tasks are on schedule. The announcement posters have been distributed, an article regarding the award program was published in the Chronicle – Independent on March 4th and the local radio station has been announcing that nominations are being accepted. Liz sent letters to at least six nominees who submitted in the past encouraging them to re-submit this year. Nominations are due by March 22nd.

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Tree Replacement: The Urban Forester has tagged approximately 63 trees at various landscape nurseries within the state. A RFB for Tree Planting has been sent out with a mandatory pre-bid meeting set for March 6th. The city hopes to award the bid before the end of the month. In the meantime, an encroachment permit has been submitted to SCDOT as approximately 34 trees are proposed for planting along Laurens Street, Broad Street, Campbell Street and lower Lyttleton Street.

Commission Vacancy: It was decided between the February and March meetings that the Commission would like to recommend Jane Miller to be appointed to fill the vacancy left open by Kim Cate's resignation. Jane provided an application to serve on the Commission to Liz who will in turn, write a letter to Council requesting that she be officially appointed.

Leaders Legacy Recognition Program (LLRP): City staff will be working on soliciting quotes to procure the benches in the coming weeks.

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With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Liz Gilland, Camden Urban Forester