



PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES – November 14, 2016

Members Present: Maureen Renault, Mary Sue Truesdale, Bob Williams, Thelma Rutledge and Diana Wenman

Members Absent: Barb Willens and Jane Miller

Staff Present: Liz Gilland, Urban Forester

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: December 6, 2016 at 4:30pm at Kendall Lake Clubhouse

The meeting was opened at 4:35 p.m. by Liz. The minutes from the September and October 2016 meetings were reviewed. Maureen motioned to accept both sets of minutes, Thelma seconded and all approved.

CITY UPDATE:

Tour des Trees / Arbor Day – The big event on October 13th went well, thanks to everyone who helped. The TdTs folks were very pleased with the stay in Camden and our hospitality.

Chestnut Hills subdivision – Liz needs to request utility locates before selecting tree species. This will likely be done in late December / early January.

Arborist Intern – Lucas Joseph has been working for a month now. He has assisted in a variety of things and has been a big help.

LLBR – The dedication ceremony for former Mayor Mary Clark’s bench occurred on October 21st at the Broad Street Park on the corner of Broad and Rutledge Streets. The bench dedication ceremony for the Sullivan’s will be on November 29th at 11am at Kirkwood Common Park.

Hurricane Matthew Damage – Most of the damage resulted in various branches broken in many of the parks as well as along the streets. Approximately 8 public trees fell over or were severely damaged. Many of the tree failures were of private trees falling into the power lines.

Broad Street Planters – We have been in conversation with the Camden Garden Club to re-do the planters for next spring. In the meantime, we’ve planted Obsession nandina’s and dwarf Hinoki cypress plants in 11 of the containers.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion regarding the Parks needs list was tabled until the January meeting. At the October meeting, Thelma mentioned that the Florentine Garden Club may be interested in assuming responsibility for Margot Rochester Landscape Award Program. Thelma reported that the Garden Club members were not able to engage in this endeavor. Further discussions are on hold indefinitely regarding this program.



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NEW BUSINESS

Citizen Survey for Parks – Maureen presented and led the discussion regarding the design and implementation of a citizen’s survey for our various parks. We reviewed possible survey goals, how best to design the questions and process the survey results as well as evaluated approximately 15 questions for consideration. There was good discussion and it was decided to further review and think about the questions between meetings. We will develop a final draft at the December meeting. From there it will be reviewed by staff and hopefully sent out in January or February 2017.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:37PM.

Respectfully submitted by Liz Gilland, Camden Urban Forester

Approved