

**August 1, 2023**

The City Tree Commission met at Northwest Kiwanis Park, and was called to order at 7:42 AM by Chair Hala Zahreddine.

**1. Welcome: Call to order with attendance**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

X Chair Hala Zahreddine

\_\_\_ Vice-Chair Kim Landsbergen

X J.P. Ratajczak

\_\_\_ Craig Thompson

X Scott Zanon

X Laura Fay

X Kathy Duke

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Superintendent of Parks and Forestry Samantha Simmons, Forestry Supervisor Matt Stewart, and Forestry Administrative Assistant Veronica Trommer.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Kim Landsbergen and Craig Thompson

Excuse Kim from the meeting

**Motioned:** Chair Hala

**First:** Scott

**Second:** Laura

**Motioned passed**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Tree Commission meeting for April 4, 2023.

**Motioned:** Chair Hala

**First:** JP

**Second:** Laura

**Motion passed**

**3. Public Participation**

No public participation

**4. Discussion Items**

**Hilliard Shade Commission**

- A city Councilman sits in on the Hilliard Shade Commission meetings.
- Sam will extend an invitation to Hilliard Commissioners to come to one of UA's Tree Commission meetings.
- Hilliard also has Tree Talk Tuesdays which are topics they come up with each month at their meeting.

**Education / Outreach**

- Farmers Market - The City's booth at the Farmer's Market is still available this fall – but we need to pick a alternate date. The market is on Wednesday afternoons from 3 – 6 p.m. Commissioners agreed that Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup> would be a good date to be at this year's Farmer's Market. Commissioners brainstormed on some ideas to keep residents' interest. Kathy volunteered to work with Sam on content for the event.
- Social Media - Maggie (the new Community Affairs Specialist) is the new point person for the Parks and Rec Department. She can automatically schedule items for the commission to get on their monthly calendar. Sam will work as the go between for the Tree Commission and Community Affairs.

**5. Staff Reports**

**General/Operational Updates**

- We are working on the tree list for the fall grant planting at Northwest Kiwanis Park. (*Draft list provided- Attachment #1*). Tree Commission weighed in on species for fall plantings.
- Sam discussed park Rotation Plantings. Northam is on the list for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024. Forestry is looking at the change in event logistics, like Labor Day Arts Festival, and are planning Western side of the park including the parking lot accordingly. Thinking about what is working and what is not from the original parking lot design. Future plantings will focus on proper selection for the site, diversity, and max shade for the parking lot and for events. (*Draft plan provided- Attachment #2*)

**Forestry Update:**

- Still working on cleaning up storm damage from significant storm in the Northwest quadrant of the city.
- Currently working on the planting, removal and grant planting projects.
- We are getting inventory done with slight changes in order to get inventory complete before the winter pruning contract.
- Fall tree planting will continue at NW Kiwanis Park using the grant received for tree planting.
- Matt has been awarded a scholarship from SMA to Work and learn from Forestry dept in Providence, Rhode Island for a week (possibly this fall) as part of the SMA Arborist exchange program.

**Horticulture Update:**

- Weeding and watering and mulching.
- We will be planting plugs in the detention basin at Burbank as well as at Thompson just east of the south shelter.

**Park Update:**

- Northam Park restoration will continue through next spring. It is getting seeded this fall.

**CIP Update:**

- We will be planting a lot of trees during the Fishinger Rd. restoration project.
- The Community Center is still under construction.

6. **FOUAP Update:**

- Worked at Smith during June, taking a break during July.
- August 26<sup>th</sup> at Thompson Park
- September 16<sup>th</sup> NW Kiwanis Park

7. **New Business & future topics**

- Future meeting locations and topics for discussion.

8. **Motion to Adjourn**

**Motioned:** Chair Hala

**First:** Scott

**Seconded:** Kathy

**Adjourned:** 8:52 A.M.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary Veronica Trommer**

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**Chairperson Hala Zahreddine**

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*The next Commission meeting is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 a.m.*