

4/2/2024 | 7:30 AM

**Municipal Services Center, Lower Level Conference Room
3600 Tremont Road**

The public is cordially invited to attend all commission meetings. Upon request, special accommodations for people with disabilities (i.e., interpreting services, audio recording, etc.) will be arranged for any City meetings open to the public. Requests for special accommodation should be submitted at least 72 hours in advance.

- 1. Welcome: Call to Order/Roll Call - Chair Hala Zahreddine/Veronica Trommer**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approve February 13, 2024 City Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
- 3. Public Attendance - Chair Hala Zahreddine**
- 4. Discussion Items - Chair Hala Zahreddine/Sam Simmons**
 - a. The Sustainability Fair - April 6, 2024 10am - 2pm
 - b. Arbor Day
 - Tree Planting Ceremony April 25, 2024 at Windemere Elementary
 - Educational Class/Event
 - c. Social Media
 - d. City Code
 - [§907. Trees, Shrubbery, and Other Plants](#)
 - [§607. Landscaping, Screening and Buffering](#)
- 5. Updates from Staff - Chair Hala Zahreddine/Sam Simmons**
 - a. General/Operational Forestry Updates
 - b. Contracts
 - c. Park Updates
 - d. CIP

e. Development

6. **Friends of UA Parks Update - Karla Gengler - Nowak**
7. **Horticulture Update - Libby Roach**
8. **Future Meetings - Topics and Location**
9. **Adjournment - Chair Hala Zahreddine**

April 2, 2024

The City Tree Commission met at The Municipal Building and was called to order at 7:33 AM by Chair Hala Zahreddine.

1. Welcome: Call to order with attendance

MEMBERS PRESENT:

X Chair Hala Zahreddine

X Vice-Chair Kim Landsbergen

X J.P. Ratajczak

X Craig Thompson

X Scott Zanon

X Laura Fay

X Kathy Duke

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Parks and Recreation Debbie McLaughlin, Superintendent of Parks and Forestry Samantha Simmons, Forestry Supervisor Matt Stewart, and Forestry Administrative Assistant Veronica Trommer.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Associate members Libby Roach and Karla Gengler-Nowak were absent due to a change in the date for the commission meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the Tree Commission meeting for October 3, 2023

Motioned: Hala

First: Kim

Second: Kathy

Motion passed

3. Public Participation

No public participation

4. Election of Officers

Motion to Elect Hala as the continued Chairman of the Tree Commission

Motioned: Laura

First: Kim

Second: Kathy

Motion passed

Motion to Elect Kim as the continued Vice Chairman of the Tree Commission

Motioned: Hala

First: Hala

Second: Scott

Motion passed

5. Discussion Items

Education / Outreach

- The Sustainability Fair on Saturday April 6th – Sam asked if the commission wanted to take that day for their booth and suggested that commissioners take shifts and split them up for the four-hour window of 10-2
- Kim and Karla will be attending an event at the library during The Sustainability Fair to talk about invasive species.
- Arbor Day is on April 26th. We are looking into Windermere, Wickliffe or possibly Upper Arlington High School to host our Arbor Day celebration.
- Social media update - Maggie is taking monthly posts from the tree commissioners and uploading them to the city's sites. Community Affairs is trying to update the website to include links for items.
- Emails will be sent from the city's IT department for file sharing between the city and commissioners.
- The Civic Clerk software that the city utilizes, will be used to keep minutes and notes. Commissioners have specific accounts on Civic Clerk where they will be able to take notes for meetings and information can be shared with each other

- JP mentioned trying to have an event near Arbor Day for adults which could possibly include prizes from local vendors for participation.

6. Staff Reports

General/Operational Updates:

- City staff attended The Ohio Chapter Tree Care Conference the first week of February. They learned of a new invasive species of tick that is in Ohio and a useful website to obtain tick and mosquito information: kx.osu.edu/bite

Forestry Update:

- Winter pruning contract is underway. Joseph's Tree Service is pruning two of the three sections. The third section was given to Davey, they have since backed out of their contract. We will be shifting some of the trees in this area to next year's contract.
- The planting contract was awarded to a fairly new contractor for the city. We have been very happy with their work thus far.
- Specifications for the contract have been updated this year to include penalties for contractors not completing their work in a timely manner.

Horticulture Update:

- DLL will be the contractor doing the spring maintenance contract this year. They are starting soon, we also added mulching to priority locations on this contract.
- Last year, several new wildflower areas were planted at Thompson and Burbank Parks. We will continue with new and expanded areas this year. This spring will be exciting, we will be adding new landscaping at Northam Park and have a whole new design with annual seeds ordered for The History Walk.

FOUAP Update:

- FOUAP was working at Cardiff Woods Saturday February 10th. The next volunteer workday will be March 16th at Miller Park. In April FOUAP will be planting saplings at both Thompson and Northwest Kiwanis Parks.

CIP Update:

- Thompson playground is the process of being rebuilt. The removal of a few trees was necessary due to structural issues.
- The tennis courts at Northam Park have begun to undergo renovations.

7. **New Business & Future Topics**

- The next meeting will be at The Municipal Building on April 2nd.

8. **Motion to Adjourn**

Motioned: Chair Hala

First: Scott

Seconded: Kathy

Meeting Adjourned: 8:52 A.M.

ATTEST: _____

Secretary Veronica Trommer

Chairperson Hala Zahreddine

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The next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 2nd at 7:30 a.m.

Sustainability Fair 2024

Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
at the Upper Arlington Public Library's
Tremont Road Branch, 2800 Tremont Road

Join UAPL and Sustainable UA as we celebrate the sustainable initiatives happening in our community. Visit with local organizations, try hands-on activities, learn about sustainable backyard practices with Franklin Soil & Water, and enjoy youth-focused programs with the family. [Don't miss this great event!](#)

Atrium

- [Upper Arlington Public Library](#)
- [Sustainable UA](#)
- [SWACO](#)
- [Electrify Central Ohio](#)
- [Solar United Neighbors](#)
- [Friends of the UA Parks](#)
- [Franklin Soil and Water](#)
- [Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed](#)
- [Columbus Garden School](#)
- [Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation](#)
- [Upper Arlington City Tree Commission](#)

Friends Theater

- 10:30 a.m.: **Community Backyards Rebate Workshop** with Franklin Soil and Water. Local conservation experts explain how you can protect water quality and the environment with "backyard conservation" practices. Plus, UA residents can receive a \$50 rebate voucher for a rain barrel, compost bin, or native plants [for attending](#).
- 1:00 p.m.: **BUGMAN** – Explore the big beautiful world of bugs and learn how important they are to our ecosystem.

Parking Lot

- **Electric car tour and Q&A** with [Drive Electric Columbus](#)
- **E-waste recycling** with [City of UA](#)
- **Electric bikes to test ride** with [roll: Upper Arlington](#)
- **Book donation collection** with [Friends of the UA Library](#)
- **Household item donation collection** with [Goodwill](#)
- **Food for purchase** from [Fetty's Street Food](#) food truck
- **Compost sale** Preorder from [GoZero](#)

Meeting Room A

- 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.: **Recycled Paper Crafts** with Laura Oldham

Youth Department

- 10:30 a.m.: **Storytime** – Author Danae Wolfe reads her book *Deep in the Branches*, a charming tale about the life cycle of treehoppers and love in unexpected places.

