

**KIRKWOOD URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**City of Kirkwood**

**139 S. Kirkwood Road**

**Kirkwood, MO 63122**

**May 25, 2021**

**PRESENT VIA ZOOM:** Ned Golterman, Mike Hankins, Chris Molitor, Barbara Sandhagen, Carol Rush, Renee Werner, David Weidler – Staff Liaison, Cory Meyer – Urban Forester.

**ABSENT:** Tanner Craft

**GUESTS:** Andy Haskenhoff

Pursuant to notice of meeting duly given, the Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission convened on May 25, 2021 via Zoom for a virtual meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by **Carol Rush**.
2. Secretary Report: Motion was made by **Barbara Sandhagen** and seconded by **Ned Golterman** to approve minutes as submitted. Minutes from the April 24,2021 meeting of the Commission were approved unanimously.
3. Tree Removal Requests: **658 N. Harrison** – Carol and Cory viewed the requested tree removals separately on site, other members of the commission evaluated the plans and reviewed the property online. Renee inquired if the proposed changes would meet the 35 percent coverage requirements for the lot as laid out by the City of Kirkwood Tree Manual, Cory confirmed that it would. Carol inquired if the plans for the property could be modified so the driveway would affect the smaller of two street trees, Andy from Frontenac Forestry informed the commission that due to the grade of the lot and best practices for storm water runoff the driveway should remain where it is shown to be placed on the provided plans. Cory provided the recommendation that the street tree being removed be replaced with a suitable species approximately 10 feet from the proposed driveway, the Commission concurred with the recommendation. Cory informed the Commission that while tree J in the proposed plans was desirable to be retained, its proximity to the new structure would lend it to removal due to the high probability it’s root structure would become compromised. If the property owner and the adjoining property owner agree on the removal of tree J it will be allowed to be removed. A motion was made by Renee Werner and seconded by Mike Hankins for approval of the plan with the recommendation of planting a replacement tree for the removed street tree approximately 10 feet from the proposed driveway contingent upon the review of the City Forester. The plan was approved with this condition unanimously.
4. Urban Forester Report: **Cory Meyer** reported the Forestry Department is currently pruning zone 5 this year which is one of the larger zones in area, but is less populated in trees compared to the density found in other zones. Cory informed the Commission that the crew will be removed for a few days in the coming weeks to perform additional maintenance to remove honey suckle and overgrowth in the downtown area. Removals are underway in the City and Cory stated that the list of ten trees that he was reviewing today for removal increased as he was inspecting the sites of the listed trees. Cory informed the Commission that anthracnose was impacting mature sycamore trees in the City more than usual and hopefully warm, dry weather will improve their condition. Cory also reported that he has submitted a Trim Grant Application in the sum of $25,000 to include potential work in regard to an inventory of the City’s trees, a tree canopy study, and completion of the Urban Forestry Master Plan. Review and notification of application status should be known in the coming weeks.
5. ACTIVITY REPORTS
	1. Junior TreeKeepers Program: **Carol Rush**, **Cory Meyer**, and **Tanner Craft** have been actively working on the Junior TreeKeepers Program to be implemented in Kirkwood Summer Camp. **Carol Rush** reported that on June 7th “Why Trees” will be covered by instructor Skip Kincaid, June 14th “Tree Planting” will be covered by instructor Pete Laufersweiler, June 21st “Trees Age and Structure” will be presented by instructor Mark Grueber, and on June 28th “Tree Identification” will be presented by instructor Skip Kincaid. Additional instructors for each Monday in July have yet to be determined. Carol will email all presenters to receive presentation materials. **Ned Golterman** suggested requesting agendas as well to ensure the entire hour and thirty minute sessions would remain engaging for the audience. Carol suggested that each child only receive one certificate. It was agreed that the commission will determine how certificates are presented at a later time. Cory provided he reached out to David Slane and he is unable to be an instructor in July, but Cory has reached out to additional professionals and is waiting on responses. Ned suggested looking into material on the importance of trees for a topic. **Chris Molitor** suggested seeking a naturalist to present on the ecosystem of a mature tree.
	2. Education and Outreach:
	3. Award and Grant Submittals:
		1. Tree city, USA. Recertification (Growth award if applicable) Due 12/31/21.
		2. MDC- Missouri Arbor Award of Excellence: Due 12/01/21.
		3. KUFC Advocate Award – Due 3/31/2022.
	4. KUFC Annual Report: Due 1/30/2022.
	5. Event Participation: Greentree is scheduled for September 17, 18, and 19. Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission to have a booth on September 18 and 19.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** David Weidler reported that Chris Molitor and Tanner Craft were reappointed on May 20, 2021 to the Commission by the Kirkwood City Council.

**NEXT MEETING:** June 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. using Zoom.

**ADJOURN:** Motion to adjourn 8:11 p.m.

Carol Rush, Chair\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_