

Tree and Landscape Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2021

10:00 a.m.

305 SW A Street, Bentonville, AR

Zoom Meeting – the public and non-committee members may contact dsemsrott@bentonvillear.com to request participation via Zoom.

Mission Statement

The City of Bentonville Tree & Landscape Advisory Committee serves as an advisory committee to the City Council and to City Staff working to maintain, improve, renew and protect the urban forest in public rights-of-way, as well as to share information with the public, enhance appreciation of trees, promote proper tree care, and encourage participation in the development of Bentonville's urban forest.

Tagline

Grow with trees.

AGENDA

Members

Gulizar Baggson, 8/11/23

Vacant Position, 11/14/23

Nathan Lembke, 7/25/23

David Short, 5/23/23

Jessie Wagner, 8/11/23

Ralph Weber, 12/31/21

Ex-Officio City Council

Holly Hook, 12/31/21

Staff

Danielle Semsrott, Senior
Planner

Geoff Braga, Urban
Forester

Emily Krol,
Horticulturalist

OPEN MEETING

Meeting is being recorded.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. Introductions

- Welcome Holly Hook! Our new ex-officio City Council representative.
- Committee and staff introductions

2. Meeting Summary Approval – November 19th

3. Election of Officers

- Chairman, 2 year term, opens the meeting, engages the Committee, calls for a vote when needed, adjourns meeting
- Vice-Chairman, 2 year term, fills in for Chairman when unavailable
- Danielle will continue to work on and update the committee on projects, set meetings, prepare agendas, minutes, etc.

4. Tree Canopy Assessment – PlanIt Geo

- Partnership between T & L Committee and WFF
- Underway, in data gathering phase
- Anticipated completion end of April

5. Spring Tree Giveaway – April 17th from 8:00 am to 10:00 am

- Municipal Complex; drive-thru
- 487 Greenleaf trees (second wish list)
- 75, 3 g Sugar Maple
- 20, 3 g River Birch
- 50, 5 g Shademaster Honeylocust
- 99, 3 g Black Gum
- 40, 3 g Swamp White Oak
- 50, 5 g Water Oak
- 100, 5 g Shumard Oak
- 53, 3 g Brandywine Red Maple
- Funded by BPC via grant from WFF
- Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager will be POC from the City in Danielle's absence, skerr@bentonvillear.com

6. Roundabout Landscaping at SW Bright Road & SW Gator Blvd – No update

- Reached out to Fulbright Jr. High School, but haven't heard back yet; will follow up.
- Partnership with the Public Art Advisory Committee
- Open Heart sculpture installed, permanent piece
- 5 x 5-foot open heart sculpture created from aluminum diamond plate
- Received approval from artist that he is ok with us designing landscaping
- PAAC supports the planting plan
- Maintenance plan – direction is to try and secure maintenance from a group/team/club, before searching for volunteers via social media
- Committee is in support of planting plan. Once maintenance is secured, vote to fund purchase and install of landscaping – contract out (will need a motion and a 2nd)

7. Grow with Trees Award

- Thaden School when complete
- Osage Park when complete, saved mature Washington Hawthorne trees – Danielle will get details
- Crystal Flats when complete, went above and beyond landscaping requirements

8. Residential & Commercial Landscaping of the Month Award

- Second City Council meeting in May – first City Council meeting in October

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Meeting Day and Time Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5QJLJN6>

2. Neighborhood Tree Planting Program – Informational

- The City’s Great Neighborhoods Partnership Program
- Tree planting program on public property in residential areas as a benefit to participating neighborhoods
- Too many utility conflicts, so now working with Patti Erwin, WFF on a similar program, but on private property

3. Bentonville Parks Conservancy

- Seeking one or two additional board members
- Monthly meetings and quarterly volunteer events – tree pruning, invasive species removal
- Reach out to Mary Beth Miller mbmiller2014@gmail.com

ADJOURN MEETING

Tree and Landscape Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2020

10:00 a.m.

305 SW A Street, Bentonville, AR

Zoom Meeting

SUMMARY

Attendance

Voting Members		Ex Officio	Staff
✓ Gulizar Baggson	✓ Ralph Weber	✓ Jon Terlouw (City Council)	✓ Danielle Semsrott
X Nathan Lembke	✓ Vacant Position		✓ Geoff Braga
✓ David Short			✓ Emily Krol
✓ Jessie Wagner			✓ Josh Stacey

1. Danielle called the meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Josh Stacey, Parks Department gave an update on park projects including expansions and new plans.
3. Danielle and Committee recognized Scott Eccleston for his commitment to the Tree & Landscape Committee, term expired on 11/14/20.

PROJECT UPDATES

1. **Roundabout Landscaping at SW Bright Road & SW Gator Blvd.** Committee suggested Danielle reach out to Fulbright Junior High School for volunteers to help maintain landscaping so we can move forward.
2. **Ordinance Discussion.** No update.
3. **Grow with Trees Award.** No update.
4. **Updated Tree Canopy Assessment.** Approved and waiting on signed contract with PlanIt Geo.
5. **Residential & Commercial Landscaping of the Month Awards.** Defined the number of nominations at any given time to eight.
6. **Tree Giveaway.** Danielle and Committee provided an update on how fall tree giveaway went. For the spring event, increase number of first come, first serve trees to 50. Discussion on how to prevent people from signing up, but not picking up their tree(s).

OTHER

1. **Adjournment.**