



# Tree Board

Noblesville, Indiana

August 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes

In attendance were Sandy Lynch, TJ Houghtalen, Rick Taylor, Vince Baker, and Kelsey Sears.

Meeting called to order by Vince at 4:43pm.



## *Old Business*

1. Any changes to the previous minutes? None.
  - a. Kelsey made a motion to approve.
  - b. Sandy seconded the approval.
  - c. All were in favor.
2. Treasurer's Report- Jack: 6,262.31 as of 8/12/19.
3. Hazel Dell News- Vince: Due to sight issues, some spruce trees will be moved out of the medians on Hazel Dell. A complaint was made by a resident about pulling out and making a left turn on to Hazel Dell. Vince has a call in to Carrie at DNR to see if INDOT has any specs. Current plan is to pull all spruces and put deciduous trees in, except ones directly north and south of roundabouts. We will be using FDOT regulations.
4. Resident defacing city trees in front of his house- Vince:
  - a. Steve Colson (resident) called and asked if the two pear trees in front of his house could be removed. When Vince went to look, someone had taken a saw and cut around the trees. Vince showed pictures at the meeting.
  - b. Currently stumps have been removed and the discussion is whether or not to charge this man for the tree removal. Vince will send out the total amount for tree removal so that we can take a vote on whether or not to charge him.
  - c. Rick asked if there's a city ordinance that states to not deface city trees. The board was unsure. We discussed for future instances if a standard could be established. Rick discussed how this connects to agenda item 6 below ... we need a new standard established with administration (there should be a tree ordinance).
  - d. TJ & Vince are working on creating a checklist for contractors wanting to apply for bids, but this will not be applicable for this Fall planting.
5. Tree Stewards Program- Sandy:
  - a. Sandy has heard from a person in Westfield and in Carmel interested. She will next contact Carrie at DNR.
6. Warranty of developer City Street Trees- Vince:
  - a. See number 4c. The board discussed the need to connect with planning department on this topic.

## *New Business*

1. New Planting List- Vince:
  - a. Vince made a motion to approve the list. All present (Sandy, Vince, Kelsey, TJ, and Rick) were in favor and thought the list looked good. This was enough to pass.
  - b. Vince will get with IT to get the old list taken off and upload the new list.

2. Warranty of developer City Street Trees-Vince:
  - a. See discussion in “Old Business.”
3. Things that are happening with the Tree Crew- Vince:
  - a. Tree pruning has been going on since the snow has stopped. Crew has started stump grinding. They will be doing this throughout the year, with other jobs being filled in where they can be. Vince has a good handle already on the stumps... currently working on the 4<sup>th</sup> section (Noblesville is divided into 4 sections).

### *Open Floor*

- The board discussed a need for a press release on social media about trimming trees in the alley. This discussion was brought about because residents have contacted Vince about this, but these are not city trees.
- Vince has received word about tree roots getting into sump line in the Mill Grove neighborhood.
- TJ brought up that in the Turnberry neighborhood, a resident wants to take a tree out of easement that's right in front of a sign. Vince directed TJ to let this resident know to get into contact with him.
- TJ asked about developers and landscape contractors planting easement trees: does the easement tree count as one of the developer's trees?
- Vince mentioned that a resident whose back property runs along Stoney Creek had an incident where a maple tree fell. Vince is getting with him because Residue LLC owns this, so they may need to handle it. Vince is reaching out to Residue LLC.
- Sandy talked about Hamilton County Soil & Water having a tree sale – trees in a 3 gallon container that will be very small.
- Vince wants us to decide what trees we want to do for our saplings giveaway next Arbor Day celebration. TJ said maybe Japanese Lilac Trees. Vince is checking on this possibility.

*Adjourn* - Next Meeting is October 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 p.m. at the Street Department.

- Motion to adjourn by Vince @ 5:35pm.
- Seconded by Sandy.

These minutes have been prepared by Kelsey Sears and they reflect the notes which were taken during the meeting by Kelsey Sears. Any omissions or errors will be corrected upon notification.

Approved by:

Sandy Lynch

10-7-19

Sandy Lynch, President

Date

Kelsey Sears

10/7/19

Kelsey Sears, Secretary

Date

Jack Martin, Treasurer

Date

10-7-19

TJ Houghtalen, Member

Date

10/7/19

Nick Snyder, Member

Date

10/7/2019

Rick Taylor, Council Liaison

Date

10-7-19

Vince Baker, Urban Forester

Date

