



Louisville Metro Tree Advisory Commission

September 19, 2012

Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District Boardroom

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome & Announcements: Katy Schneider and Henry Heuser, Jr.

Katy Schneider and Henry Heuser, Jr., Commission Co-chairs, welcomed Louisville Metro Tree Advisory Commission (hereinafter, "Commission") members and guests.

Paul Cappiello attended his first Commission meeting and is co-chair of the Projects/Maintenance committee.

Meeting minutes from the Commission's August 21st meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Allen Steinbock

Allen Steinbock, Commission Secretary/Treasurer, reported on the status of efforts to establish the Louisville Tree Fund 501(c)(3). He stated that the Louisville Tree Fund still has no way of accepting funds, except through donations to Louisville Metro Government. He met with the Community Foundation of Louisville (CFL) about CFL becoming the Commission's fiscal agent. He discovered that this arrangement would cost the Commission \$1,000 in set fees with a charge of \$250 to incur each quarter. Mr. Steinbock then asked the Commission and additional attendees for suggestions for less expensive options for fiscal agents. Lisa Dettlinger suggested the Center for Neighborhoods and Valerie Magnuson suggested Louisville Grows. Both options will be looked at by the Commission.

III. Commission Logistics/Support – Katy Schneider

Katy Schneider reported that the Air Pollution Control District will be providing logistical support to the Commission. This support will include, but not be limited to, taking meeting minutes, making announcements, sending out Commission e-mails, updating the Commission's website, etc.

IV. Committee Reports:

Project/Maintenance Committee Report: Mike Hayman

Mike Hayman reported that Eco-tech, a local waste management company, has donated 1,000 trees to the city. The Project/Maintenance team is currently working on finding locations for the trees.

Mike said that he would like to plant approximately 20 trees per site in order to keep planting costs down. He also said that every site will have a maintenance program and we currently have more demand for the trees than we have trees to give out.

Community Outreach and Education Committee Report: Sherie Long

Monica Orr and Michelle King were absent from the meeting, so Sherie Long spoke in their place. Sherie reported that this group is currently working on a PowerPoint presentation detailing the group's efforts.

Inventory/Scientific Committee Report: Margaret Carreiro

Margaret reported that this group is working on finalizing a list of Urban Forest attributes to include in the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the eventual Urban Forest Master Plan. The RFP will divide these attributes into two categories according to importance:

Priority 1 Attributes:

1. Measure our tree canopy by council districts and by land use type.
2. Measure our tree canopy potential.
3. Identify areas of environmental need (i.e., areas vulnerable urban heat island affects, flooding, etc.)

Priority 2 Attributes:

1. Inventory our urban forest according to species, condition, and vulnerability.
2. Identify scenarios for tree survivor ratios (i.e., How many trees would we need to plant to maintain our current canopy, to reach 30% coverage, to reach 40% coverage etc.?).

Margaret's draft recommendations are attached to these minutes (Attachment 1).

In response to Margaret's report, Henry Heuser asked which committee should determine what types of trees should be planted. Paul Cappiello responded that Mike Hayman is working on such a list.

The question was then raised as to why, in light of the arrival of the English Ash Borer (EAB), the University of Louisville has planted a row of ash trees on their campus. Stephen Cotton suggested that project was completed on a state road and the university may not have been responsible. Margaret said that she will investigate the situation.

Scott Hannah congratulated Margaret on her good work preparing the RFP.

Policy Committee Report: Sherie Long

Todd Eberle was absent, so Sherie Long filled in. Sherie reported that the next Policy Committee meeting will focus on the Land Development Code (LDC) and the group's advisements for the LDC revision process.

Technical/Advisory Committee Report: John Hamilton

John reported that this group had been asked to devise a plan to combat the EAB and the ALHB (Asian Long-Horned Beetle). He noted that the group would need help in researching these problems and that he was planning to learn more about how the state of Ohio has dealt with the EAB and ALHB. He also reported that a report out of the ALHB conference in Cincinnati states that the only known successful protective measure against the EAB and ALHB is destroying the trees vulnerable to these pests.

V. Presentation and Approval of Report to the Mayor – Katy Schneider

Katy Schneider spoke about her report to the mayor about the Commission's work. Councilwoman Cheri Bryant Hamilton expressed concern about the recommendation to make Operation Brightside the 501C3 home for the Tree Fund. Katy Schneider acknowledged that the Mayor did not support this idea either so the Commission will not pursue this recommendation. A revised copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

VI. Announcements & Adjourn

Sherie Long recommended that the Commission ask Wes Syndor, MSD, to come speak to the group about Green Infrastructure at a future Commission meeting. Co-chairs, Henry Heuser and Katy Schneider, agreed the Commission should invite Mr. Syndor to speak.

Henry Heuser announced that Dr. Brian Stone would be visiting Louisville with a group of his students from Georgia Tech on October 11th.

David Kaelin, a guest, announced an upcoming writing and art contest sponsored by the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation and Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts.

Corey Petry, Limbwalker Tree Services, announced that the KY State Tree Climbing Championship would be on October 20th in Cherokee Park.

The next Commission meeting will be October 23rd at 5:00 in the Air Pollution Control District boardroom.