

MEETING MINUTES
Urban Forest Commission
July 20, 2023

Attendees: Kenny Allen, Diana Nicely, Jason Iames, Tom Mauntel, Linda Wendelken, Todd Herrmann, Johnna Herrmann

Kenny Allen called the meeting of the Urban Forest Commission (UFC) to order at the Erlanger Public Works building on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes – June Meeting

The June meeting minutes were approved by Todd Herrmann and Tom Mauntel.

Discussion Items:

Kenton Lands Project

- Peter has a mock drawing of the landscaping design; it is coming along well.
- Kenny shared the estimate for metal butterflies (3) 4 x 4 – estimate was \$931; would be for the 2024 budget year.
- It's possible to do trail and tree uplighting too since we pay the electric bill for that sign.
- 25-pound bag for partial shade for wildflowers - ~\$600 (bulkwildflowers.com)

7 Mile Garden Project

- Diana gave an update from the City Beautification task force. The meeting took place on Tuesday, Diana shared the new plaque that will designate the former 7 Mile House and will be deemed the 7 Mile Garden.
- There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony in September, formal date and announcement coming once all details are finalized. If we know any media sources to help promote the event, please let them know.
- Going to incorporate native plantings and flowers there, it will be beautiful!

Spring Tree Planting Initiative

- Kenny gave an update on resource estimates for this initiative:
 - The team could plant three trees a day; devote a day or two each month for three to four months.
 - The tree would not be warrantied, but we would provide a gator (watering) bag for the tree.
- Johnna connected with Meg Casper who is familiar with the Fort Thomas program and will invite her to the August meeting and/or get more information about how they executed their program.
- 10-15 trees for the first year would be the goal
- Similar to the banners, started through social media, the Clerk at the City building took the information and added it to a spreadsheet. Must be submitted by a certain deadline.
- Could promote it on the City Facebook page and on the website

- Fall would be a good time to promote it
- Recommendation: Provide four trees to select from: River Birch, Dogwood, White Oak, Red Bud
 - Must also check availability before we start it up (Kenny has contacts at Ammons, Natorps, tree broker)
 - Maybe include a picture of the tree, planting guidelines, ideal light conditions
- Link NKY – Nathan Granger is a good media contact to promote the program

Status of the Container Program

- Talked about the considerations of maintenance of the container pot program; concerns with businesses maintaining the pots even though they have invested in them (past history)
- Currently, on the way around the parks, the City team stops and water the flowers as part of their park rounds
- Could enlist local high schools for art project to decorate the pots that are in the local parks
- Also discussed an idea of painting a large boulder (patriotic theme)

Action Items:

- Kenny will look up the profiles of the trees for the tree planting program
- Johnna will invite Meg to join us or bring back details of the tree planting program

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 17 at 4:00 p.m.

- Finalize the tree planting program
- Narrow on dates for October 2024 Arbor Day program; possible location Depot Park. (Depot Days are very popular.)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Johnna Herrmann, UFC Secretary

APPROVED:

Attested by:

Sherry Hoffman, City Clerk