

**KIRKWOOD URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**City of Kirkwood**

**139 S. Kirkwood Road**

**Kirkwood, MO 63122**

**March 23, 2021**

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

**ABSENT:** Tanner Craft, Ned Golterman

**GUESTS:** David Weidler

Pursuant to notice of meeting duly given, the Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission convened on March 23, 2021 via Zoom for a virtual meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by **Carol Rush**.
2. Secretary Report: Motion was made by **Barb Sandhagen** and seconded by **Mike Hankins** to approve minutes as submitted. Minutes from the February 23rd meeting of the Commission were approved unanimously.
3. Tree Removal Requests: None.
4. Urban Forester Report: **Cory Meyer** reported that the City’s fiscal year is ending on March 31st. At this time only hazardous tree removals are being done. Pruning will resume in April. He is working on two contracts with Procurement, one for purchase of 75 trees and then a second contract for planting. He will inspect the seedlings at the nursery and then also upon delivery and will have right of refusal if he believes they are not healthy. They will be 1.5-2” in diameter and will be planted in the Fall. He announced that there is a new Forestry webpage under the Engineering Department on the website.
5. ACTIVITY REPORTS
   1. Junior TreeKeepers Program: **Renee Werner** reported that she had reached out to science teachers she knows in the Kirkwood School District but has not heard back from them.
   2. Education and Outreach: **Cory Meyer** reported that the City had once again received its Tree City USA certification and the Electric Department had received the Tree Line USA designation. Celebration of Arbor Day was set for Saturday, April 24 at 9am. Three Tulip Poplar trees will be planted along the south border of the new Performing Arts Center. The Arbor Day Proclamation will be on the Council agenda for April 1st.
   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 3/31/2021. Presentation of the award will be made at the April 1st Council meeting via Zoom.
   4. KUFC Annual Report: Due 1/30/2022.
   5. Event Participation: Greentree remains scheduled for September 17, 18, and 19.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS: Mike Hankins** asked Cory about the ability to plant trees on Kirkwood Road. His response was that it was limited due to ROW and the small tree lawn area available for planting as well as the fact that portions of Kirkwood Road are not under the City’s jurisdiction. He was also asked if the recent cold snap was enough to control fungus. Cory believes that after several warm winters this cold snap was enough to reduce fungus that attacks trees. However, a wet Spring, soft soils and strong winds may prove to be a problem even for healthy trees.

**NEXT MEETING:** April 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. using Zoom.

**ADJOURN:** Motion to adjourn 7:48 p.m.

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

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