

**City of Whitewater**  
**Urban Forestry Commission Meeting Agenda**  
**Tuesday, March 26, 2013 – 4:30 pm**  
Cravath Lakefront Room – 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building  
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Citizens are invited to speak to agenda items as they appear on the agenda. There is a 3 minute limit on these comments.

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Considerations:**

1. Approval of Agenda – Items can be removed but not added to the agenda
2. Approval of minutes for Feb. 26, 2013.
3. Cravath Lake EAB treatment vendor educational forum for homeowners in April (City Forester Nass). Publicity? EAB website link?
4. FOTEM Initiative: Native Plant plantings proposal for the entryway, and contingent areas, of the Indian Effigy Mounds Park.
5. Discussion of terrace plantings as water conservation measure as done in Madison. (Trykowski)

**Board Reports:**

Planning and Architectural Board (Coburn)

Parks and Recreation Board Report (Knedler)

Update on Cravath Lakefront Park “stakeholders” public meeting regarding possible visions for the park.

UFC position, if any?

**Staff Reports:**

City Forester (Nass)

\*Tree cuts/pruning/maintenance/ construction related updates/planting updates.

\*EAB tree removals, treatment schedule/Milwaukee Street tree plantings, letter, pedestrian islands’ planting – native?

\*Update – Treyton Field Council action/Bird City application

\*Citizen query regarding herbicide use by city.

**Hearing of Citizen Comments:**

No formal action will be taken during this meeting, although issues raised may become part of a future agenda. Participants are allowed a 3 minute speaking period.

**Adjournment**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 23, 2013

**City of Whitewater  
Urban Forestry Commission Meeting  
Tuesday, February 26, 2013**

**Call to order** by Chairperson, Tiiu Gray-Fow.

**Roll call:**

Members present: Tiiu Gray-Fow, Karen Coburn, Andrew Crone, Bev Stone

City staff present: Brian Neumeister

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by Bev Stone to approve the Agenda Second Karen Coburn.

Unanimous approval

Karen McCulloch arrives at this point in the meeting

**Approval of Minutes of January 22, 2012 meeting:**

Motion by Andrew Crone, Second by Karen Coburn.

Unanimous approval

Brandon Knedler arrives at this time.

**Consideration 3:**

Coburn asks to review last meetings EAB minutes to see how the points raised last meeting are being implemented. The overview is as follows:

- 1)The Parks and Rec Board doesn't want to have our cautionary disclaimer about specific treatment types. Rather they just want to tell residents to use the treatments, which ever they choose, to be careful.
- 2) The Park and Rec Board chose not to pursue a possibility of citizens creating treatment agreements with the city. They mentioned liability issue and the possibility it could take business away from potential private service providers.
- 3) The Park and Rec Board is still working on date for March event at Cravath Lake. Brian says it might be early April.
- 4)Regarding where EAB info will be posted, it will be posted, under Urban Forestry, but we are looking to see if it can be someplace easier to find. Knedler will ask if EAB can be its own button on the city or park board page.

**Consideration 4:**

Coburn stated her concern that Landscape plans come in late for the UFC to review the plan. Knedler stated we should have a request from Plan board to Latisha to emphasize the need to get landscaping plans in sooner. Coburn will talk to Latisha.

A Cravath Lake Park meeting is to be in April to find out from citizens and business to see what we want the park to be like. These suggestions will then go before the park board.

**Staff Report:**

Letters have been sent out for 4 inch and under trees to be removed. In the next week or two they are to be removed. Those to be treated, will have a letter sent out in March. Letters will be sent to people whose trees will not be treated. There maybe option for homeowner to pay to have it treated.

McCulloch states citizen concern for two trees without tree guards.

**Suggestions for future agenda items:** We can push to enter our request to become a bird city by March 1 if Nass can review the form in time. Pamphlet for EAB.; Coburn will look into it and get back. Knedler will ask Amundson if the Park and Rec Department can make it. Look to see if it can be put on water bill. Look into radio and Whitewater Banner listings.

**Move to adjourn:**

Motion by Karen Coburn, seconded by Bev Stone  
Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted:  
Andrew Crone

Hello Matt,

The Friends of the Effigy Mounds preserve group (FOTEM) is interested in volunteering the design, installation, and maintenance of plantings for the front area of the mounds, from the sidewalk to the west entrance fence, the part that passers-by see from the street. FOTEM persons have indicated to you that they would like to see appropriate native plantings growing on both sides of the entrance sign, extending along the entrance walkway/vehicle entrance, and spreading almost all the way toward the north boundary (toward condos). You met with some of us last spring out in the front, when I showed you a rough idea of “pods” of plantings, leaving space for turf grass walkways wide enough for mowers to get around the plantings.

Rather than planting the entire area in 1 big swathe, visitors could walk around each pod of plantings and view individual plants from the surrounding paths. They could, as well, read some historical, medicinal, culinary, ecological, and other educational identifications for each species as it might relate to use by native people during pre-settlement times (some small signage here later).

By “appropriate” native plants we mean those of low to medium height (4 feet max.) that will tolerate mesic, alkaline soil, full sun most of the day from sunrise to sunset, and are drought and heat tolerant. As you are aware, no one is likely to water them after they are established, and if appropriate perennial natives are purchased, they shouldn’t need a lot of special care that FOTEM and other volunteers couldn’t assist with.

Appropriate also means planning so that something native will be in bloom from as early as April, to as late as November, as well as planning for non-aggressive natives. The areas in mind are not large enough to warrant planting with seed mixes, since the results of planting seed mixes are more random than we would want in these smaller exhibit areas. We are not trying to construct a native prairie here. Instead, we suggest an educational, specimen species area to environmentally enhance the area, and which will feature some of the native plants that would have been growing during pre-settlement times.

However, small, individual plants can be expensive. At an average of \$5 per plant, \$1000 will only buy around 200 plants, and typically plants are spaced around 1 per square foot or greater, as they spread and increase in width and size. 200 plants are probably just a start, and not enough for the entire area in mind. I have been perusing native plants in catalogs, available for purchase from vendors such as Prairie Moon Nursery of MN [www.prairiemoon.com](http://www.prairiemoon.com) 1-866-417-8156, and

Prairie Nursery of Westfield, WI [www.prairienursery.com](http://www.prairienursery.com) 1-800-476-9453. Prairie Moon is currently running a good discount offer for Mix & Match trays of 38 plants for \$102, plus, \$10 off a potted tray order by April 15. This offer, however, has limited species, so our selections might not be available at this price. I think they need orders fairly soon, so that they can ship the plants throughout April and May. The weather in June can be very hot and dry for planting, although one can never predict that.

What are your ideas and suggestions for FOTEM at this time? Do the above ideas meet within the flexible vision of the Restoration Plan?

I have made a large list of natives that grow in mesic soils and tolerate full sun. I need to further sort them for height, spread, and bloom time, and draft a landscape plan for their distribution on the site.

March 13, 2013

Denay Trykowski , FOTEM volunteer

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Denay,

I think this all makes sense...would FOTEM be able to develop a layout of what you are recommending to be reviewed by the Parks & Recreation Board in April. I think funds can and will be available.

Would it be possible to develop options that would range from a \$2000 plan, a \$3,000 plan, and a \$4,000 plan? It may be beneficial to involve the Urban Forestry Commission in this discussion as well.

Matt