

City of Whitewater

Urban Forestry Commission Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 25, 2014 - 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 February 25, 2014
3. Downtown Design Steering Committee meeting
4. Bird City Application update (Nass, McCulloch)

Board Reports:

Planning and Architecture Board – Landscaping (Coburn)

Parks and Recreation Board – Parks and Recreation Board strategic plan forestry component section (Knedler); parks that were discussed at the March meeting requiring UFC input regarding forestry issues.

Action Items:

1. EAB Flyer distribution and publicity; website issues
2. Bird City – further actions needed?
3. UFC recommendations for parks that Knedler states were worked on at last Park and Recreation Board meeting (if any).
4. Cravath Lake Park Stakeholders' meeting (April, May?)
5. Update on UFC participation the Downtown Festival on August 2, 2014 with Studio 84, as an environmental education endeavor related to Bird City (Coburn)

6. Tour of Parks (April, May, June?)

Staff Reports:

City Forester (Nass)

*General tree cuts/pruning/maintenance, weather related/construction related updates/planting updates, tree damage , construction updates that may have impact on trees.

Arbor Day

Hearing 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 29, 2014 at 4:30 pm

**City of Whitewater
Urban Forestry Commission Meeting
Tuesday, February 25, 2014**

Call to order by Gray-Fow

Roll call:

Members present: Tiiu Gray-Fow, Karen Coburn, Karen McCulloch, Andrew Crone, Brandon Knedler, Tom Miller

Members absent: Bev Stone

Staff: Chuck Nass, Matt Amundson

Considerations:

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Coburn to approve the agenda. Second by McCulloch.
Unanimous approval

Approval of Minutes for November 26, 2013 meeting

Motion by Knedler. Coburn Seconded.

Change November 25th to 26th.

Unanimous approval

Approval of Minutes for January 28, 2014 meeting:

Motion by McCulloch. Coburn Seconded.

Unanimous approval

Downtown Design Steering Committee meeting Report

Gray-Fow, Coburn and Nass were present. Coburn says Brett Mozzetti, UW Madison student in their landscaping program will suggest items: remove curbing on First St., perhaps go to one way traffic and make a respite spot. Plant a "Green Bridge" to connect Second Street to Cravath Lakefront Park. Turn alley behind Studio 84 to an outdoor seating area or "green alley". Put in Splash pad for kids. It will meet again in middle of March. Members can contact him at mozzetti@wisc.edu.

Tom Miller arrives at this point.

Bird City

McCulloch stated that Resolution to pursue Bird City designation will go to City Council meeting on March 4, 2014. It will be read with the Arbor Day notice. We still need to have protection of habitat published or actively publicize the cat ordinance.

Board Reports:

Planning board:

Coburn: nothing to report. They will be talking about ensuring there is enough space around buildings for landscaping between buildings.

Park and Rec Board:

EAB Matt Amundson: How do we reach people who won't go to the EAB web site? Amundson said that Dr. Kidd wants to know what the city can do to let people know that they can remove their ash trees. The city could remove the tree as an example to let people know. Flyers can be posted around town. Kaylea Cau, intern for the Parks and Rec Dept. could work on this.

Park Board is developing short and long-range plans of each park. They are reviewing those plans for a twenty year plan. Forestry Dept. (City Forester and Urban Forestry Commission) will be addressing the forestry-related and "green" landscaping parts of the plans. It will also be involved with developing the five year work plans for the parks.

Matt Amundson leaves.

Gray-Fow remarked that there was not a single tree planting recommendation listed in any of the Park plans.

Coburn wants respite spots designated in the parks for sitting and enjoying the outdoors.

Knedler says this is a way to go step by step for ideas.. Look at things we want to think about and things we want to recommend. Put the proposed park use in the plan first so UFC can work around that.

Motion:

Gray-Fow makes a motion that the proposed park plans for all city parks should come back to the UFC and the City Forester for landscaping review; and that we will recommend the planting of additional trees as needed in every single park.

McCulloch seconds. Unanimous approval

Action Items:

Request from Park Board for

1) Information on EAB public education: EAB Flyer, UFC website (needs to be more easily accessible), Whitewater Banner.

2) Vision and goals of UFC were stated:

The UFC vision and goals includes its active participation in the forestry section of the Parks and Recreation Department's strategic plan related to the inclusion of trees, shrubbery, landscaping and other green issues specific to the city's park, open space, and trail system commensurate with the UFC's mission. (See UFC

Management Policy, Introduction and Mission Statement, passed by the Whitewater Common Council on September 27, 2011).

Cravath Lake Stakeholders meeting

Early April is target month – Knedler asked to bring it to Park Board.

Old Weiler Prairie Restoration

Miller makes a motion and Coburn seconds, to recommend acceptance of the Provisur Technologies’ landscaping proposal that was included in this month’s agenda. Unanimous approval

UFC Participation in Main Street Festival.

Festival could have a Bird House emphasis. Coburn suggests UFC have an information table at the festival. McCulloch says the Festival supports Bird City. It will be on August 2nd. Coburn moves to have UFC participate. Seconded by Gray-Fow. Unanimous approval

Staff Reports:

Trimming trees can now begin this winter after a busy season for using the staff for plowing. Center Quadrant is primary.

Citizen comments:

None.

Upcoming Agenda items:

Next meeting will be 4:30 March 25, 2014.

Move to adjourn:

Motion by Miller to adjourn. Seconded by Knedler.
Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted:

Andrew Crone

UFC, Secretary

SAVE YOUR ASH TREE

The presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been confirmed in the City of Whitewater.

Tips to Save Your Ash Tree

1. Identify the tree as an ash tree...if you are not sure contact the City Forester for assistance. (Mountain ash is not a true ash species and are unaffected by EAB. They do not require treatment.)
2. All untreated ash trees will eventually become infected. Decide whether to treat your tree or not.
3. Symptoms of an EAB infestation can include canopy thinning starting in the upper portion of the tree, epicormic sprouting (i.e., formation of sprouts) along the trunk, bark splitting, and woodpecker damage near the top of the tree.
4. Treatment can be effective on EAB infested trees with less than 50% infestation. Treatment is most effective on trees with little or no apparent disease.
5. Most insecticides registered for EAB management require yearly applications to effectively protect a tree.
6. Injected insecticide treatments last as long as 3 years. A certified arborist with a license for pesticide application can help you treat your tree.
7. If your ash is smaller than 47 inches around the trunk at chest height, you may be able to treat your ash tree yourself.
8. Insecticide treatments are not recommended for trees with greater than 50% canopy thinning; these trees should be removed.



A healthy ash that is properly located in the landscape, has a nice shape and good fall color, provides shade, and has value to your property.



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)



For more information contact:

Chuck Nass

Parks/Streets Superintendent & City Forester

cnass@whitewater-wi.gov

262-473-0542

www.whitewater-wi.gov/forestry

Tips on Ash Tree Removal

1. Trees that become infested with EAB and are not treated will ultimately die and will need to be removed.
2. A small (less than 25 feet in height) ash tree may cost a few hundred dollars to be removed by an arborist. Larger trees may cost \$1,000 or more to be removed.
3. If you choose to remove an infested ash tree, Whitewater has a disposal program in place, please contact the City Forester.