

**City of Whitewater  
Urban Forestry Commission  
March 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order:** 4:41 pm

**Roll Call:** Rose Mary Leaver, Anne Zarinnia, Karen Coburn, Sherry Stanek  
Absent: Karen McCulloch, Jerry Schoen, Brandon Knedler, Nick Alt

**Staff:** Chuck Nass

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve by Leaver, Zarinnia 2nd, unanimously approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve by Zarinnia, 2nd by Leaver, unanimously approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Sold \$39 of honey at Wellness Event.

**Staff Report:** More brush is to be cut back at Clay Street Nature Park. Coburn asked about planting sedges and native grasses to keep geese out of the park. Three trees will be planted at the park this spring, at least one will be an oak.

Whitewater Creek Nature Area has been taken care of.

**Bird City/Bird Talk:** Walton Oaks Park was discussed, in terms of the bird life there and it being considered a bird sanctuary.

IMBD: Sherry may make a Snowy Owl cutout for kids to take their pictures with. August 8th will be our event and will be held at the Cravath Community Building during the hours of the City Market. Some ideas that are being considered are a mural that kids and adult can paint and that can travel around the city celebrating birds of our area or that migrate through our area. Other groups may be invited to take part in this day.

**Library Presentation:** Sherry will be giving a presentation on the importance of native plants to the environment at the library on March 29th at 6:30 pm.

**Tree City/Tree Talk:** Sunday April 2nd next workday at Walton Oaks Park. Brush needs to be picked up. Ross Walton has original blueprint for development there and will find for us so that we can ensure that the large oaks on the north end are protected from development. Zarinnia presented information on trees in Whitewater, noting that there are large areas that don't have enough trees. Many of these areas are not under the control of the city, such as the school district areas and cemeteries. She talked about the Chicago Oak Project and the importance of oak trees in our environment. Nass suggested that we have school kids gather acorns from under the Territorial Oak on Franklin St., and attempt to grow them into oak trees.

**Report on Meadowsweet Park:** Coburn wondered whether trees could be planted near the sign? Nass and Stanek said that there are already quite a few trees planted there. Coburn will drive by again.

**Plan Board:** No report

**Park Board:** No report

**Announcement:** Kettle Moraine land sale to Camp Joy - many are working to stop this sale of forest land to a private party, rather than having it available to all residents. It is an important wildlife corridor and it is unknown what the camp will do with it that might inhibit that important use.

**Adjournment:** Coburn moved to adjourn, Leaver 2nd, unanimously approved.

**Next meeting:** April 24th

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Stanek, Secretary