



City of Cookeville Tree Board Minutes

January 8, 2020 Time: 12:00pm

In attendance: Guy Zimmerman, Tony Stone, Greg Brown, Jeff Littrell, Ed Hollingsworth, Marti Foster, Jeff Fitzpatrick, Jaime Nunan, Douglas Airhart, Ken Young, Mike Witt

I. Approval of Minutes and Budget Report

II. Arbor Day Planning

Board members discussed the Arbor Day celebration and decided to place an educational sign at the 2019 TAEP Grant tree planting site on April 3, 2020.

Board members also discussed a second celebration with PSMS in honor of their newly certified arboretum.

III. Tree Campus K-12

Jaime will be meeting with Tony Stone and his environmental club on 1/10/20 to develop a plan to certify Cookeville High School as an Arbor Day Foundation Tree Campus K-12, this would make Cookeville the first city in Tennessee to receive all four Arbor Day Accreditations.

IV. 2020 Home Show - March 6-7

Tree Board will be handing out seedlings/educational materials at the Upper Cumberland Home Show. The tree board will be doing a raffle to receive a ball and burlap tree from Cherry Creek Nursery.

March 6th – 4:00pm-8:00pm

March 7th – 9:00am-6:00pm

V. Newspaper Article Series and Radio Interviews

Ron was not in attendance to update on newspaper article series. Marti mentioned Phil Gibbons would be willing to speak with Jaime and Jeff regarding the cities forestry work.

VI. T-shirt Quotes

Tony shared that Old Town T-shirts had unfortunately closed prior to taking our t-shirt order; he will be checking with the next two companies who provided a bid to see who has better quality then placing the order for 50 t-shirts.

VII. Donation Money Planting ideas

Donated money will be used to plant trees on Cedar Street near the two new benches created by local artist. Jaime will notify everyone involved prior to planting to see if they would like to help plant the trees.

VIII. TAEP Grant Update and Replanting at City Hall

TAEP Grant trees will be planted sometime before March depending on the weather. The trees requested by James Mills have been planted at City Hall to replace the old magnolias that were removed.

IX. Other News

Mike spoke to the board about Tennessee Divisions of Forestry's new Fire Strike Team.

Guy and Mike will be working together to search for funding for an education series of videos about trees.

Jaime will be adding all board meeting agendas and minutes to the Tree Board page on the Cities website.

Douglas spoke about a program "America in Bloom" which promotes nationwide beautification through education and community involvement by encouraging the use of flowers, plants, trees, and other environmental and lifestyle enhancements. Before applying for AIB, Douglas recommended we complete the Growing Vibrant Communities survey for \$299.99 to see how Cookeville rates. Board members voted and approved the purchase; Jaime will start gathering information for the survey from the various other environmental groups in Cookeville.

Important Dates

March 6-7, 2020 – Cookeville Home Show

March 21, 2020 – TN Tree Day, tree handout at Public Works 8:00am – 12:00pm