

Tree and Landscape Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 21, 2021

10:00 a.m.

305 SW A Street, Bentonville, AR

Zoom Meeting – the public and non-committee members may contact bbirchfield@bentonvillear.com to request participation via Zoom.

Mission Statement: The City of Bentonville Tree & Landscape Advisory Committee serves as an advisory committee to the City Council and to City Staff working to maintain, improve, renew and protect the urban forest in public rights-of-way, as well as to share information with the public, enhance appreciation of trees, promote proper tree care, and encourage participation in the development of Bentonville's urban forest.

Tagline: Grow with trees.

Members

Gulizar Baggson, 8/11/23

Nathan Lembke, Chair, 7/25/23

David Short, 5/23/23

Jessie Wagner, Vice-Chair, 8/11/23

Ralph Weber, 12/31/21

Vacant Position, 11/14/23

Ex-Officio City Council

Holly Hook, 12/31/21

Staff

Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager

Baylea Birchfield, Planning Technician

Geoff Braga, Urban Forester

Emily Krol, Horticulturalist

AGENDA

OPEN MEETING - Meeting is being recorded.

1. **Meeting Summary Approval** – September 16th*

CURRENT BUSINESS

2. **Arkansas Monarch Conservation Partnership** – Laurie Scott

3. **Tree Preservation & Protection Working Group Update**

4. **Fall Tree Giveaway** – October 23

- Tree registration update
- Schedule for the giveaway

5. **Landscaping Award Nominations** – October *

Residential:

- 2412 Rita Way – existing nomination
- 4100 SW Heartwood Street – existing nomination

OTHER BUSINESS

6. **Great Arkansas Cleanup**

ADJOURN MEETING

* Attachment

Tree and Landscape Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Thursday, September 16, 2021

10:00 a.m.

305 SW A Street, Bentonville, AR

Zoom Meeting

SUMMARY

Attendance

Voting Members	Ex Officio	Staff
✓ Ralph Weber	✓ Holly Hook (City Council)	✓ Baylea Birchfield
✓ Nathan Lembke		✓ Geoff Braga
✓ David Short		✓ Emily Krol
✓ Jessie Wagner		✓ Shelli Kerr
✓ Gulizar Baggson		

Open Meeting. Shelli called the meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. **Meeting Summary Approval.** Minutes approved.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. **Landscaping at Bright Road.** Shellie shared the sketch Emily put together in the past. She recommended looking into contracting out both the instillation and the maintenance for this location. The discussion of using T&L funds for this project. The group discussed starting with a 1-year contract and evaluating at the end of the year. Planning will work with Parks and Recreation to define exactly what would be needed for the area before looking for bids. The question about students maintain the property was brought up again; however, the majority of maintenance will be needed during the summer months. Gulizar asked about the roundabout by Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. Shelli will reach out to Crystal Bridges to confirm who maintains this area.
2. **Thomas Jefferson Trees.** Shelli discovered that there are a number of dead trees around town from the Tree Planning Blitz that need attention. We are doing a photo/video inventory to gain knowledge of how many need assistance. We will talk with a landscape architect to see what steps need to be taken to remove the dead trees and trim the others. Holly suggested adding the dead trees in the Lyndal Heights neighborhood to this focus group. Geoff believes there was a contract between the Parks Conservatory and the Lyndal Heights Subdivision where the Parks Conservatory would install the trees and the Street Department will remove trees. The discussion of who will maintain/replace them was still in discussion.
3. **Tree Preservation & Protection Working Group.** After the last work group, it was determined that more research needed to be done before moving forward with next steps. Tyler will update the group as more information is gathered.
4. **Fall Tree Giveaway.** Baylea Shared that the Tree Giveaway is October 23rd and 500 trees of 9 different types are ordered. The registration link is almost finished. The event will take place from 8-10 and we currently have Ralph, Jessie, and David and his wife are available to volunteer. Nathan and Holly also volunteered to help. Baylea will send further details as the event gets closer.

5. Residential Landscape Award September Nomination.

Shelli attached pictures of the three nominations. She requested votes by the end of the day. Nathan asked if we have record of who has won in the past. Planning will put this together and share with the group.

- 4100 SW Heartwood – existing nomination
- 2412 Rita Way – existing nomination
- 208 NW F Street – new nomination

6. Commercial Landscaping Award September Nomination.

- Northwest Church, 301 SW unity Blvd

OTHER BUSINESS

- 7. Vacant T & L Position.** Shelli reported that interviews were conducted for the vacant position. She recommended increasing the board to 7 members as odd numbers usually work better with City committees. She also recommended updating term limits to reflect that there are none, adding the tree Giveaway to our duties, and realigning some of the terms to reflect terms ending at the end of the calendar year to stay aligned with other City Boards. Shelli will take this to Planning Commission and City Council then do the new appointments.
- 8. Tree City USA Renewal.** Baylea announced that applications are open for Tree City USA. She is working with other city staff to complete the application process.
- 9. The Great Arkasnas Cleanup.** Baylea shares that this takes place each September and October. In the past, we have done more of a community-wide event on one day. Due to COVID and staff transitions, we are changing this up a bit and encouraging small groups on their own time. The signup process will be through our cleanup kits and families, co-workers, or neighborhoods can check out our kits on a day that works for the group and clean an area of that they wish. All participants will receive a reusable trash bag for their cars. Holly asked if this was on particular day. Baylea explained that is has been one day in the past but this year we are encouraging groups to do this on their own time in October. Geoff asked about giving away more bush-type species similar to the way Fayetteville does their Tree Giveaway. This is something we will look into for the Spring.

ADJURN MEEITING

Residential Landscape Award Nominations

2412 Rita Way



4100 Heartwood Street



3200 SW Municipal Drive

3200

Non pre-
reserved trees

Pre-reserved trees

Lane 1

Lane 2

Exit Here

Enter Here

3202

SW MUNICIPAL DR

Fall Tree Giveaway Location Drive-thru
October 23rd; event from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

A – K asked to arrive between 8 & 9 am
L – Z asked to arrive between 9 & 10 am

Macro View

Fall Tree Giveaway Location Drive-thru
October 23rd; event from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

A – K asked to arrive between 8 & 9 am
L – Z asked to arrive between 9 & 10 am

SW 28th Street

3200 SW Municipal Drive

Event location

SW I Street

S. Walton

Rainbow Curve

SW Regional Airport Boulevard / Hwy 12

