

Tree and Landscape Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 21st, 2022

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, 12/31/23

Nathan Lembke, Chair, 12/31/23

David Short, 12/31/22

Jessie Wagner, Vice-Chair, 12/31/23

Ralph Weber, 12/31/24

Stephen Gilbert, 12/31/24

Mark Bray, 12/31/24

Ex-Officio City Council

Holly Hook, 12/31/22

Staff

Baylea Birchfield, Planning
Technician

Geoff Braga, Urban Forester

Emily Krol, Horticulturalist

AGENDA

OPEN MEETING - Meeting is being recorded.

1. *Meeting Summary Approval – March 17, 2022

NEW BUSINESS

2. Morgan Keeling – Illinois River Watershed Partnership

3. *[Tree Campus K-12 program](#)

4. *Tree Giveaway – Saturday, April 23rd

5. Landscape of the Month Nominations

OLD BUSINESS

6. Joint-Meeting re-cap

- [Click here](#) for the link to 2021 Tree Canopy Assessment
- Public education and engagement

ADJOURN MEETING

** Attachment*

Tree and Landscape Advisory Committee and Bentonville Parks Conservancy Joint Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2022

12:00 pm

Downtown Activity Center - 215 SW A Street

AGENDA

Meeting Recording:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/EnM98BnPcvL0_vOxfTod6z85Q4hwXb_EvXILGxSqbiXyt1nEVG7H4EE3VX_sEC2h.qs-qegzjdp1E2_LA

Bentonville Parks Conservancy Members Present:

- o Mary Beth Miller
- o Patti Erwin
- o Pam
- o Janet

Staff

- ☐ Scott Mendenhall

Tree and Landscape Members Present

- o Nathan Lembke
- o Jessie Wagner
- o Ralph Weber
- o Mark Bray
- o Stephen Gilbert
- o Holly Hook
- o Guilzar Baggson

Staff

- ☐ Baylea
- ☐ Geoff Braga
- ☐ Emily Krol

OPEN MEETING - Meeting is being recorded.

NEW BUSINESS

Introductions/Welcome:

- Baylea opened the meeting at 12:01pm

Bentonville Parks Conservancy and T&L Background and discussion:

- Mary Beth Miller is representing the Bentonville Parks Conservancy and gave background on the organization. Mary Beth gave details on the activities that they are involved in and said that the organization tries to have four workdays a year. The organization started a partnership with the UofA as well and has really benefited from it.
 - The groups is working towards becoming a level 2 ArbNet which focuses on identifying species throughout the city.
- Nathan Lembke is the Tree & Landscape Committee Chair. He shared how the committee has grown over the years and shared current projects such as nominating Yard of Month for Bentonville residents and volunteering for two Tree Giveaway's a year.
- Mary Beth Miller expressed interest in reviewing the results from last year's Tree Canopy Study.
- April 9th was discussed as a workday for the committee. After discussion from the group about Clean the Streets Day taking place on April 9th, the workday was moved to April 30th. There's a distribution list to help spread the word to volunteers for the workday. The committee would like the city to help with more exposure. Baylea said that from a social media standpoint, she would talk with city leaders to help promote the work day event.

- Patti gave details about 511 trees that were planted with several POAs within the Neighborhood Advisory Committee.
 - Pattie said that 5 more POAs will be reached out to regarding planting more trees
- Jeff is going to reach out to the utility team to see if the committee could do a project there.
- Discussion was had about possibly bringing in lecturers and different educational opportunities from Peel Compton Foundation.
- Discussion was had, as to what's considered a 'shade' tree or a 'shrub'. Before a person could receive a Certificate of Occupancy, the trees should be 'shade trees'.
 - Baylea recommended bringing in Tyler Overstreet to discuss next steps after his Tree Preservation Committee findings from late last year.
- Discussion was had about reevaluating the Free Tree Giveaway. A Resident could possibly exchange a "bad" tree to receive another tree from the city. Baylea shared that we cannot limit this just to those who remove bad trees as the program is open to all Bentonville residents.
- Baylea will put together another Join Meeting to discuss the Tree Canopy results in more detail and to include Tyler's findings.
- May 19th for the next joint meeting

ADJOURN MEETING

Baylea adjourned the meeting at 12:12pm

** Attachment*



Tree Campus K-12



An Arbor Day Foundation Program

CONNECTING STUDENTS TO NATURE THROUGH TREES

Connection to the outdoors is a critical element of learning, and trees provide a context for youth to explore the natural world. The impacts of these experiences are both immediate and long-lasting.

Tree Campus K-12 inspires the next generation of tree stewards through experiences that bring the benefits of trees to life both inside and outside the classroom. This program fosters positive connections between youth and the trees in their community and cultivates within its participants a lifelong respect for trees on a global scale.

PROGRAM GOALS

Tree Campus Team – Establish a group with representation from staff, students, and community dedicated to achieving Tree Campus K-12 recognition.

Education Plan – Conduct activities that connect students to trees and their global benefits, inside or outside of the classroom.

Hands-On Experience – Engage students in a project that brings the school's tree spirit to the community.

Arbor Day Observance – Hold a celebration of trees within the school or the community.

Help Your School Receive Tree Campus K-12 Recognition Today

Achieving Recognition



PLAN

School champions define a strategy that works for their school.



COLLABORATE

With local collaborators, schools carry out education and engagement activities.



APPLY

Schools submit a description of their achievements to the Arbor Day Foundation.



CELEBRATE

Qualifying schools are recognized, sharing their pride with the community.



THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

Trees benefit our planet in many ways. When people learn about these benefits in their youth, their potential to make a positive impact on their community and world with trees becomes even greater.

On your journey to meeting the annual program goals, your school can:

- Get help identifying partners in your community who can help bring more tree experiences to your school.
- Get to know the trees on your campus and in your community.
- Create a platform for educating your school community on the benefits of trees.
- Use the framework provided to bring the program to life in your school's unique way.

HELP YOUR SCHOOL

Achieve Tree Campus K–12 Recognition Today

You can be a driving force in connecting your students to nature through trees. Visit treecampusk12.org to learn more about how your school can get involved.

treecampusk12.org

3200 SW Municipal Drive

3200

Non pre-
reserved trees

Pre-reserved trees

Lane 2

Lane 1

Exit Here

Enter Here

3202

SW MUNICIPAL DR

Spring Tree Giveaway Location Drive-thru
April 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