

**Berkley Tree Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 27, 2023**

**Present:** K. Karlis, S. Bard, B. Lathrop, T. Losey, H. Tylanda,, M. Leneway, L. Fritsch, D. Hennen

**Absent:** S. Young, L. Price, M Grassa

**Additional visitors:** Kendal Corrigan-Salter

**Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.**

**Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes** –Feb 27, 2023 meeting minutes approved.

**Review and Approval of Agenda** –The agenda was approved as proposed.

**Public Comments-** Kendal Corrigan-Salter came to discuss her email sent to the city and forwarded to the Tree Board. She has had numerous mature trees removed by neighbors on private property. She hopes that we can impart education to residents about the importance of large mature trees. She worries that if residents don't work in coordination with the city, we will never be able to see the 40% tree canopy goals outlined in our UTC come to fruition. The vast majority of our mature trees are on private property.

**Tree Concern:** Kendal Corrigan-Salter sent the Tree Board a letter with her concern for residents removing mature trees from their yards. See public comments.

**DPW Update**– S. Young provided this feedback to be shared at the Tree Board:

- The Arbor Day Proclamation has been submitted for City Council consideration with a target goal of the April 3rd meeting.
- Arbor Day Planting - The Arbor Day Planting is set for 2 trees in the center boulevard of Cass near 11 mile on April 29th from 9am - 11 am. The closest houses would be 1767 and 1851 Cass. The board or volunteers are welcome to perform the actual plantings if they wish. DPW staff can be there to provide support and materials or perform the actual plantings. Just let me know so we can staff accordingly.
- Spring Planting - We are planting 14 residential trees and 4 boulevard trees this spring. This does not include the Arbor Day Trees.
- Wiltshire Project - There are no preemptive tree removals planned for the Wiltshire Water Main Project. Tree protection will be required and we will reevaluate the trees after project completion.
- Oxford Park Trees - There were 5 trees replaced under warranty at Oxford Park and a few others on the wait until spring list. We will continue to monitor these trees throughout the year.

- Recent Ice Storm - Public trees actually endured the recent ice storm pretty well considering the amount of damage that we are seeing on the private side of things. Staff has been continually running the chipper route since the storm.
- Fall 2023 Tree Planting Program - Order forms are being included in every water bill for this cycle. This mailing takes roughly 3 months to complete. The order bank opens on June 1st and has a firm close date of August 1st. We have received roughly 50 orders back so will most likely remove the order open date for next year and alternate starting sections for future mailings. I am asking for an additional 50 trees in the budget this year. We will see what gets approved.
- Banners/Signs -DPW recently had some Tree City USA banners and yard signs made and will be looking to place them out during the next month. A sample of each is attached. (These would be available for the board to use at events like Art Bash or Berkley Days as well)

**Residential Tree Giveaway Program Update:** T. Losey updated the board that the subcommittee (H. Tylenda, K. Karlis, L. Fritsch, T. Losey) met via Zoom. Discussion topics included sourcing and various funding ideas. Sponsorships and community outreach ideas were also explored. T. Losey talked to the city manager, Matt Baumgarten, and the board does have the ability to do fundraisers as well. We discussed the idea of purchasing several trees to raffle off for private property at Berkley Days. T. Losey informed the board of the [“Community Canopy”](#) program through the Arborist and Day Foundation. This program helps cities to engage residents to plant trees on their privately owned property. There is a 100 tree minimum. If our budget doesn't allow for it, perhaps we could partner with a neighboring community. Rochester has a robust program funded through their city's tree fund. S. Bard inquired if the monies collected from builders are allowed to be spent the same as donations are. D. Hennen said he would look into this.

**Community Engagement “Berkley Days”** – K. Karlis discussed plans for the Tree Board participation at Berkley Days this year.

She asked members to sign up for days/times they would be available.

Details were also discussed. Our primary focus is community outreach and education. We will provide materials for these purposes and M. Leneway will be available to answer specific questions. A canopy and tables and chairs will be provided by various members. Two people signed up for each time slot with coverage for Friday-Sunday. K. Karlis volunteered to purchase five appropriate native trees that the board will raffle off. The trees can be planted on private property and the funds will go to support the broader tree giveaway for private property. L. Fritsch will reach out to the Beautification Committee chair, D. Mihaescu, to see if he would like to participate. We will also have some activities for children relating to trees through the Arbor Day site.

**Other Topics not on the agenda** – no other topics were added to the agenda.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for April 24 (2nd Floor Conference Room, Public Safety Building).

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.