



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Tree Board

Wednesday, December 17, 2025
5:00 PM

City Hall
Conference Room 1B
701 E. Broadway
Columbia, MO

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: 6 - Jacob McMains, Samuel Wright, Stephen Bybee, Patricia Quackenbush, Max Miller and Renee Scheidt-Hahn
Excused: 1 - Michael Kyd

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the agenda.

Yes: 6 - McMains, Wright, Bybee, Quackenbush, Miller and Scheidt-Hahn
Excused: 1 - Kyd

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Yes: 6 - McMains, Wright, Bybee, Quackenbush, Miller and Scheidt-Hahn
Excused: 1 - Kyd

IV. CITY TREE FUND

Fritz informed the board that the new director is planning on attending the next meeting to discuss the fund. The group reviewed the letter to council. McMains asked if the director could provide questions ahead of the next meeting. Wright asked if the letter could be redistributed to the board for review. The board discussed how the fund might operate to expand and enhance tree canopy within the city.

V. WORK CALENDAR

The board discussed upcoming off season events. Scheidt-Hahn suggested budget discussion for the next agenda. Wright thought it was a good time to review the Urban Forest Master Plan. Bybee offered to bring back information about a possible event at Walt's Bicycle in February.

VI. TREE BOARD INFO CARDS

The group talked about Tree Board messaging at outreach events. All agreed a clear mission statement would help people understand the work the board is doing. Fritz reminded everyone that the existing materials cover much of this and many copies remain. Wright asked if this could be shared with the group. The conversation then turned to how to better display information. Scheidt-Hanh suggested that a better table display would be helpful. Bybee offered to share an example from MCC.

VII. REPORT FROM MISSOURI CONSERVATION CORPS

Stephen Bybee, Project Director for the Missouri Conservation Corp, provided an annual report to the Tree Board.

VIII. REPORT FROM LIAISON

Fritz review protocol for posting meeting agendas. Then reported on a budget increase for public works tree maintenance with CIP funds and that potential projects were being considered. Then informed the board that the Community Forester position at the Missouri Department of Conservation had been posted. Last he shared a template for an annual report to city council.

IX. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

McMains reported that cuts to federal funds were affecting the budgets of the Missouri Community Forestry Council, Missouri Department of Conservation and that the Forest Service was no longer funding updates to iTree services.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will take place January 21st. Agenda items will include: City tree fund, Urban Forest Master Plan, and Tree Board budget.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22PM.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Yes: 7 - Kyd, McMains, Wright, Bybee, Quackenbush, Miller and Scheidt-Hahn

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