

St. Joseph Tree Board Meeting Minutes
5:45 p.m. – Missouri Conservation Dept.
November 10, 2021

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u> (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)	<u>Term of Office</u>
Members present:	David Ball, Chairperson	12-0	December 3, 2021
	Gregg Mrkvicka	0-2	January 3, 2023
	Mechelle Cox	4-2	January 13, 203
Absent:	Daniel Benz, Vice Chairperson		
	Theo Williams		
Staff present:	Peggy Shaw, Code Enforcement Clerk		
Visitors –	Martha Clark, Arborist		
	Matthew Schwend, Community Forester with MO Conservation Dept.		

2022 JAN -5 AM 8:14

CITY CLERK

Quorum established with three members present.

David Ball opened the meeting. He motioned to accept the previous September 15, 2021 minutes. Mrvicka gave the first motion and Cox seconded it. All Aye.

Old business: None

The meeting began with discussion on electing new Chairperson and Co-Chairperson since David Ball's term is ending in December 2021. Ball said he is happy to participate, but no longer wishes to be involved as the Chairperson. Ball asked Cox about becoming Chairperson, but she was unsure since she has work and family responsibilities. Ball then asked Mrkvicka and he said he would like to see things scaled back to specific events over the course of the year with Arbor Day being one, something like this evening's presentation during winter and then some other project in mid-summer.

Ball asked Mechelle and Gregg about chairperson and co-chairperson. Mechelle said she was agreeable to that as long as it was a 3-4 event per year time thing. Clark mentioned that it was very sad that trees are very important and that the city does not see the value. Clark says the public assumes when there is talk about trees it is the Park's Department, but there are trees along every public right of way. Clark would like to see more activity with the Tree Board involved and have educational programs to help in regenerating the interest with help of the Community Forester.

Ball asked Cox and Mrkvicka to officially be Chairperson and Co-Chairperson and he would like to stay with the Tree Board as a member only and hold no position.

Gregg thinks this would be fine for him. His busy times are Spring and Fall so meetings may have to be flexible occasionally.

Ball is unaware if Daniel Benz will continue with the Tree Board.

Cox asked for more input from Clark on what she believes the events should be for the upcoming year. Clark said she believes there should be a strategic plan developed and what the focus is going to be. She also mentioned that the Sustainable Environment Committee wants to be involved in more plantings and projects like that.

Schwend said the educational opportunities are good information for the public. Clark agreed since the public is unaware of certain items such as they need a permit to plant a tree and which trees are allowed to be planted and which are not.

A motion was made by Ball to make Mechelle Chairperson. Mrkvicka seconded the motion. All aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ball to make Mrkvicka Co-chairperson. Cox seconded the motion. All aye. Motion passed.

Next meeting was set for February 2022 – actual date to be determined.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Ball. First motion by Mrkvicka. Seconded by Cox. All aye. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Shaw
Recording Secretary

An educational presentation was then given by Matthew Schwend on how to correctly prune trees. There were 4 additional members of the public which attended.