

# **MINUTES OF CHARLESTON TREE COMMISSION MEETING OF----NOVEMBER 29, 2017**



**Spicebush, *Lindera benzoin***

The meeting was convened at 6:25 PM in the lobby of City Hall at 520 Jackson Avenue, Charleston, Illinois by Stan Adkins acting as facilitator.

Members present were Larry Shobe, Stan Adkins, Dale McCullough, Cynthia Nichols, and Kent Macy.

The minutes of the October 25, 2017 meeting were approved as printed on a motion by Dale McCullough as seconded by Larry Shobe. Motion carried 5-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Emerald Ash Borer update. Nothing further was reported by Tree Board members. Additional monitoring of ash trees will be necessary as the likely hood of disease spread is increasing.**
- 2. Lake Island Tract Restoration Project Greg Culp, Curt Buescher, and Steve Pamperin have all indicated they would meet with members of the Tree Board to look at the progress of restoration and options for the future. The City has invited the Tree Board to contribute ideas for the improvement of the restoration site at Lake Charleston. It was thought that sometime this spring would be a good time to take a look, on site, at the invasives or lack thereof at the site. The Tree Board is concerned that invasives previously removed will grow back without continued work to eliminate them.**
- 3. Tree Campus USA re-application [EIU]. Krtisten Gisondi indicated to Adkins that she will contact members of the Tree Board as she gets close to the final data that she will be submitting to the National Arbor Day foundation.**

4. **Tree City USA re-application.** C.J. Applegate will be putting together the re-application for the City of Charleston with the help of Tree Board members. The re-application is due December, 31, 2017.
5. **Potential New Tree Board Member (s).** Kent Macy suggested Marissa Grant be seated on the Tree Commission and provided information as to Marissa's interest and background. The members by consensus agreed that Marissa would be an excellent member. Marissa is the Land Steward Director at Douglas-Hart Nature Center. Adkins will provide Marissa's contact information to City Clerk, Deb Muller so that the City Council may approve Marissa at one of their upcoming meetings. A second potential member is Terry Smith. Marissa is replacing Bob Wagoner. At this time another replacement is not needed.
6. **Problem Trees.** It was mentioned that there are some limbs over hanging the street on University Drive that may have to be removed this spring. Tree Board members were invited to take a look and provide their opinion.
7. **Bur Oak Blight. (BOB).** Adkins provided a map of the distribution of Bur Oak Blight along with background information as to the disease. The important thing to note that the disease is moving south. The infection is as close to Charleston as Champaign County. The pathogen, which is relatively new, is Tubakia iownesis [fungus]. It is treatable and information was also included. The web site, HOME, YARD, AND GARDEN NEWSLETTER, University of Illinois, should be consulted for additional information.
8. **Other.** No additional items were discussed.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 6:30 PM in the upstairs conference room at 520 Jackson Avenue, Charleston, Illinois.

**Stan Adkins, Secretary**