

Urban Forest Council  
Meeting on February 1, 2018

- The meeting started with Sarah reading the UFC's mission statement, prompting members to think about what we're supposed to be doing. She asked us to consider why we're a part of the UFC and how much time we're actually willing to spend outside of meetings to do the things we say we want to do. The point was made that in order to accomplish anything, we have to do more than talk through agenda topics once a month.
- Members then discussed the 3 things we need to get done relatively quickly to move forward, and arrived at the following:
  - Introduce ourselves to City Council
  - Finalize our own account with the Division of Parks, Rec, and Forestry
  - Bring more stakeholders to the table
- Introduction to City Council
  - Ric suggested we request time to speak at the February 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting
    - This would give Ric time to meet with the Mayor
  - Ric also suggested meeting with the Public Works committee
    - They'll probably be meeting in early March, but Ric will know 2 weeks in advance so we'll have time to iron out details beforehand
    - Jon Neeper is the Chair of the committee, the other members are Carla Thompson and Todd Gordon
- Finalize Account
  - Ric spoke with Randall (Rick) Bartels from the Auditor's Office and he's willing to help us get our own account where we can put donations, funding allotments, etc.
  - To get an account we need to have our affairs in order, which includes having a treasurer and a second signer (both of which are not currently outlined in the ordinance)
    - Ric offered to be the treasurer since he'll be able to monitor the account easier than anyone else
    - Jim Morrissey offered to be the second signer on transactions
- Bring More Stakeholders to the Table
  - Jim Morrissey suggested having someone from the city crew that performs tree maintenance be a part of the Council
    - Ric to make the connections
  - Sarah is scheduled to meet with different organizations, such as Master Gardeners, that might have an interest in joining the Council
  - It was also recommended that we speak with the Gardeners of Lima at Faurot Park

- Engineering Department Projects
  - The grade separation at Elm Street: quite a few trees to be planted, but not until 2019
  - CSO tank: currently out for rebid, not sure how many trees are to be planted
  - Schoonover renovations:
    - there will be no trees planted along the damn between the lake and the river once it's repaired
    - 4 large trees for the island; Jim Morrissey thinking Yellow Buckeye and Little Leaf Linden right now but accepting suggestions for different species through February; bids go out in March; absolutely no Maples
  
- Events
  - Arbor Day Celebration to be held at St. Rose Catholic School, somewhere around their new gymnasium on April 27, 2018
  - Also, seriously considering having an event the Saturday directly after Arbor Day to promote the tree rebate program, among other things
  
- Tree Commission Academy
  - 9 registrants so far
  - Mama Cella's catering can stay within budget and include a light breakfast for \$10 or just stick with lunch for \$9
  
- General Business
  - Sarah suggested changing our name to "Urban Forestry Commission" to better align ourselves with similar groups throughout the state
    - Ric said this is something that is typically done behind the scenes through legislation and isn't something we should mention at our introduction to City Council
  - Sarah created a calendar in Excel to help coordinate our efforts
    - Let her know what events/important dates you want added
    - The original was emailed on January 5, 2018
  - It was suggested that we consider changing the meeting time to accommodate more people
  - Attendees: Jim Morrissey, Ric Stolly, Vince Sarno, Sarah Helton, and Alaina Morman
  - Next Meeting: 11:30 on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at the Cambridge Center