

Urban Forest Council
Meeting on April 4, 2018

- Tree Rebate Program
 - We have 3 interested parties—two residential properties and one business. They scheduled consultations with Sarah.
 - Jim Morrissey raised the point that we need to be mindful of not tearing up relatively new concrete in sidewalks, so we should direct business/home owners toward spots with old concrete.
 - A donation is also being made to LCC; the tree will be planted at 720 S. Cable Rd.
 - Vince also said his neighbor is potentially interested in participating.

- Account Update
 - Ric is now hoping to have the account formalized by May.
 - If we receive any funds between now and then they can be deposited into the Memorial Fund and Jim Moscato can make purchases with the City credit card.

- Engineering Department Projects
 - Schoonover renovations:
 - Engineering had a meeting with Pat Beam to discuss landscaping. A water feature is still being considered for the island, but there will definitely be a rock feature with boulders donated by National Lima and Stone.
 - Public Communication
 - A conversation was had about using Facebook to address questions and comments surrounding public projects and tree removals. Everyone was in favor of sharing factual information.
 - We also discussed needing a representative from Field Services so that we can be informed of what projects they have. Ric said he would get ahold of Mike Caprella, Utilities Director, to get a representative.

- Events
 - The City of Lima Arbor Day event will be held at St. Rose school. The tree will be planted in the northwest area behind the school, on McKibben, between 10:00 and Noon.
 - A proclamation is being prepared and will be ready by Monday, April 16th. We can ask the Mayor to read the proclamation on the 18th or the 25th. Everyone agreed to have the Mayor read the proclamation on April 25th at his press conference. There's also the possibility of asking him to read the piece at the school event.
 - Ric is supposed to check with St. Rose and get an estimate of how many kids will be participating.
 - We are no longer planning on hosting our own Arbor Day event after the Ottawa River Cleanup on Saturday, April 28. We'll aim to organize something for next year when we've had more time to plan.
 - We're still planting a red oak and bald cypress over by the skate park and Faurot. Those trees will receive plaques engraved with "Urban Forest Council" "Arbor Day" and "2018."

- General Business
 - We welcomed a visitor: Rae Neal. Thank you for attending!
 - Rae is the organizer of the long-running Earth Day festival at Faurot Park. This year's festival runs from Noon to 6:00 PM on Sunday, April 29.
 - She invited us to have a presence at the event: there's a kids' tent, information tent, and speakers throughout the afternoon at the Rotary Pavilion. We can choose to be involved to whatever degree we'd like.
 - Attendees: Jim Morrisey, Jim Moscato, Vince Sarno, Sarah Helton, Ric Stolly, and Alaina Morman; Chris Martello was there for the last 20 minutes.
 - Next Meeting: 11:30 on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at the Cambridge Center.
 - The meeting concluded at 12:25 PM.