

**NASHVILLE TREE BOARD
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**

Tree Board Members present: President Mark Shields, Vice-President Amy Spalding, Secretary Diana Wright, and Member Elliot Burnette. Also present: Town Manager Sandie Jones and Administration Manager Phyllis Carr.

BUSINESS

1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:34am by President Shields.

2) ROLL CALL

President Shields conducted roll call. Katie Starr is applying to the Town Council to serve on the Tree Board. Ms. Starr was also in attendance of today's Tree Board meeting.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 8-31-2023 MEETING

Secretary Wright made a motion to minutes as presented. Vice-President Spalding seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

4) DISCUSS LAKE MONROE WATER FUND APPLICATION FOR LANDSCAPE SCALE RESTORATION GRANT

Phase 1: On-the-ground projects with partners

Additional LMWF staff or an independent contractor would be engaged to coordinate the project. Practices include, but are not limited to, invasive plant removal and installation of native trees and vegetation, after the invasive removal where appropriate. Partners: Work with the DNR, specifically Yellowwood State Forest.

Nashville invasive mitigation. Dawn Slack, Project Coordinator for the Indiana Invasives Initiative, is already starting to talk with business owners now. Outreach to private landowners would also need to be done. Project would include taking out trees, replace and maintenance of plants weekly (15 gallons of water). They could contract Landscaper Todd Baker or get volunteers to put an alligator bag on each tree.

Bluestone Tree is working with Monroe County and would give a 35% discount for removal of 20 trees including stump grinding. Vice-President Spalding spoke with ABC Tree Removal, and they would look at 23 trees and herb removal for \$15,684, but that would not include stump grinding.

Ms. Cohen has asked for \$7,000 out of \$10,000 per year from the Tree Board, but will look at using volunteers as the match. Vice-President Spalding and Ms. Cohen will give a presentation to the Town Council tonight and ask for funds and a letter of support.

Vice-President Spalding made a motion that the Tree Board will write a letter of support for the LSR Grant. Member Burnette seconded it. All were unanimously in favor.

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5) DISCUSS DAVEY RESOURCE GROUP TREE INVENTORY QUOTE

Administration Manager Carr read aloud the quote from the Davey Resource Group. Vice-President Spalding said they deliver an amazing product, but agreed with President Shields that the cost is not in our budget. The Tree Board needs to be proactive in funding tree removal and we would have to get more funds from the Town Council. Ms. Cohen said there is a program through Indiana University that has a graduate student doing mapping in the summer. Vice-President Spalding said the tree risk assessment needs to be done by a professional.

Katie Starr advised that the Tree Board could apply for a mini grant for \$3500- 80/20 cost share through Brown County Soil and Water. Vice-President Spalding said that could be used for tree inventory. Administration Manager Carr suggested to contact the Community Foundation for possible grants, Ms. Cohen will check with Rotary Club; President Shields will contact Lions Club and REMC Operation Round-Up; Town Manager Jones will contact Duke Energy to ask about removal of invasive trees. Vice-President Spalding will investigate the Indiana Forestry Educational Fund and make a grant fund spreadsheet. Ms. Cohen will set up an endowment for tree inventory.

6) ADJOURNMENT

Vice-President Spalding moved to adjourn. Secretary Wright seconded the motion. President Shields adjourned the meeting at 9:25am.



Tree Board President Mark Shields

10/19/23

Date