

**NASHVILLE TREE BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021**

Tree Board Members present in person: President Cathy Paradise, Vice-President Mark Shields, Secretary Amy Spalding and Member Diana Wright. Tree Board Members Present via Zoom: Member Zachary McMillion. Also present in person: Administration Manager Phyllis Carr and Records Clerk Sandie Jones.

BUSINESS

1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Paradise at 8:30 am.

2) ROLL CALL

President Paradise conducted roll call.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 7-15-2021 MEETING

Vice-President Shields asked a question about the tree removal update in regard to the tree removal in front of Michael's Flowers. He asked if the whole tree was removed or did it just have some dead limbs removed. Administration Manager Carr clarified that it was two silver maples, and the work was completed last Tuesday. One tree needed to be removed and one had some dead limbs. Vice-President Shields made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2021 meeting as presented. Member Wright seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor of the motion.

4) DISCUSSION OF USE OF REMAINING DUKE GRANT FUNDS

President Paradise reported that the Duke Grant funds originated in 2018 and there is \$2,500 remaining, and it should be used. She elaborated that the current flower beds did not work out well. The sandstone beds are cracking, and the flowers are too large for the beds. She would like to see more raised with nicer flowers. The remaining money could be used for flowers or educational signs. President Paradise asked the board their thoughts on the matter. Administration Manager Carr advised that the Nashville Park Commission meets this afternoon and that if there were suggestions, both she and Vice-President Shields could bring it up at the meeting.

Secretary Spalding commented that she would favor educational signage. The intention of the grant was to educate the public on the use of native plants. The signs could talk about native plants and invasive species. President Paradise agreed that that was the purpose of the grant but that the park is not bringing people to the plantings because of how poor they look. Vice-President Shields agreed that the planting was to educate the public and that perhaps the signs shouldn't highlight any specific plants in the beds as they are subject to change. President Paradise pointed out that people do not even realize that the area is a park because it does not have park signage. Administration Manager Carr said that they are in discussions on park signs, but they were hesitant to do so yet because they are still discussing park layout such as future trails. Member Wright inquired how do the grant funds have to be used, was it just for the park or could it be used elsewhere in the town? Administration Manager Carr said that she could look up the wording on the grant. Vice-President Shields asked if there was a time frame for the grant to be spent.

President Paradise shared that according to past records the Duke Grant was originally for \$7,500 of that \$5,000 of that was used for the stone planters and the remaining \$2,500 was to be used for educational signs.

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Administration Manager Carr asked if we could use the signs at other sites in town. President Paradise asked Administration Manager Carr to find out. Vice-President Shields said he would favor putting them in the park after the Nashville Park Commission has finalized plans for the park. President Paradise tabled the item until we find out more about how we can spend the money.

5) TREE REMOVAL UPDATE

Administration Manager Carr shared that last Tuesday two silver maples were taken down and trimmed by Michael's Flowers. There is a dead ash tree behind Town Hall that needs to be removed next year.

Vice-President Shields inquired about the silver maple in Antique Alley that was discussed during the last meeting. Administration Manager Carr was unsure if that was on the town right of way. Secretary Spalding shared an updated town right of way map for the board to view with an overlay of the right of way boundaries. Records Clerk Sandie Jones brought up the area on Google Maps street view and the tree appeared to be within the town right of way.

President Paradise asked if any of the removal areas should be planted in future years. Administration Manager Carr said that we have several. Many of the removals were because the trees were damaging sidewalks and building foundations. Secretary Spalding suggested a smaller stature tree like a yellow buckeye may be a better fit.

Vice-President Shields asked about the removal budget for next year. Administration Manager Carr is going to check on next year. The budget for 2021 was about \$12,500 and there were between 5-7 removals.

6) UPDATE ON ARBOR DAY TREE PLANTED AT EMS BUILDING

Vice-President Shields stated that the yellowwood tree planted at the EMS building looked like it was doing well. It may need more wood chips spread thinly around the base next year.


7) ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Administration Manager Carr said that the Expression of Interest for next year's Tree Board will be sent out soon. Any volunteer hours should be sent to Administration Manager Carr for the Tree City Application.

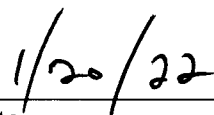
8) ADJOURNMENT

Member Wright made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-President Shields seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 am.

The audio recording made at the Tree Board meeting on 10-21-2021 is retained in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer.



Tree Board Member



Date