

St. Joseph Tree Board Meeting Minutes  
6:00 p.m. – 4th Floor Conference Room  
February 5, 2019

CITY CLERK  
2019 MAR 13 AM 8:36

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u> (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)	<u>Term of Office</u>
Members present:	John Holland Chairperson	9-0	1/06/20
	Gregg Mrkvicka	1-0	1/03/21
	David Ball	1-0	12/03/21
	Daniel Benz	1-0	12/17/21
Members absent:	Douglas Stanton	7-2	1/3/20

Staff present: Juston Carr, Property Maintenance Manager  
Peggy Shaw, Code Enforcement Clerk  
Carol Flury, Neighborhood Services Coordinator  
John Bowser, SIM&R Projects Facilitator  
Jeff Atkins, Assistant Director Parks & Recreation

Visitor - Martha Clark, Arborist

Quorum established with four members present.

John Holland opened the meeting.

**Old Business:**

John Holland mentioned that since Doug Stanton had been unable to attend, he had not asked him if he had been to Sam's Club yet in regard to the treats for the kids for Arbor Day.

Holland asked Carr if he had submitted the Tree City USA paperwork yet. Juston deferred the question to Peggy who said it was being prepared.

Carr said KCPL had not yet been notified to see if they would again provide a tree to be planted at the school for Arbor Day. Holland said he would attempt to find out who to contact at KCPL regarding this matter.

Holland mentioned it is usually the 4<sup>th</sup> graders at the school who attend the tree planting. The Mayor is there with the proclamation, tree board members are introduced and the tree is planted. Lonnie Messbarger explains to the children about the tree and how it's being planted. Oak Grove was the school picked for this year's Arbor Day Tree Planting.

Approval of minutes by Dan Benz.

Holland asked the new Tree Board Members to introduce themselves: David Ball (recruited by Martha Clark), Gregg Mrkvicka and Dan Benz introduced themselves and we welcomed to the Board.

Holland said he believes the Tree Board needs to expand. He has talked to the Mayor and several other people about expanding it. He believes that many of the ordinances and regulations need changed. First, they will then need to make a motion, which will go to Clint Thompson. He will then pass it on the Bruce Woody who will likely call a council work session after Thompson drafts an ordinance for them to discuss. Then the City Council will offer it for first reading and 2 weeks later it will be up for passage. John wishes to get a base foundation started on this so that whoever takes over from him can build from that and make this a successful board, since it is part of the City.

Holland introduced John Bowser. Bowser presented a very informative Powerpoint demonstration in regard to the 22 ordinances for trees; 5 that cover generalities and 17 that cover maintenance. Bowser also handed out paperwork and pamphlets concerning the local trees and the Dig Rite program that is offered prior to digging the hole a tree would be planted in. He discussed that it is against the ordinance to top trees, that you must obtain a permit to plant a tree, insurance coverage amounts that should be required by tree cutters and the amount recommended by FEMA. He discussed right of ways and sidewalks. Bowser put on a very researched and informative talk for everyone.

Holland stated we need everyone on board to get ordinances changed and expanded. This may include contractors coming to the Board or the residents of St Joseph coming to the meetings and setting in the audience and asking questions. We need to be informed ourselves and education and communication are very important.

Holland asked the new board members if they wished to have another meeting in a couple weeks or wait until the regular meeting on the first Tuesday of March as planned. It was decided to have the next meeting in two weeks on February 19, 2018. Holland would like to possibly invite some Department heads to the March 5, 2018 Tree Board meeting and let them hear what has been determined after the board had spent some time reviewing the ordinances.

Holland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Mrkvicka.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38

Next meeting will be February 19, 2019

Minutes respectfully submitted by Peggy Shaw, Recording Secretary