

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
MICHIGAN CITY TREE BOARD  
FEBRUARY 3, 2010**

The Michigan City Tree Board met in a regular meeting in the Common Council Chambers, City Hall Building, 100 East Michigan Boulevard, Michigan City, Indiana, on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. local time; the date, hour, and place duly established for the holding of said meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman William Bolton called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were noted present for the record: William Bolton, Kathy Ceperich, Jeffrey Meyer, Dave Morlan, Rebecca Pelath. Patricia Boy and Mick Wulff were absent. (5 present – 2 absent) Staff in attendance: City Forester Frank Seilheimer and Secretary Debbie Wilson.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The slate as presented by the nominating committee: William Bolton, President; Mick Wulff, Vice-President; Kathy Ceperich, Secretary.

***A motion was made by Ms. Pelath approving the slate of officers as presented. The vote was as follows: (Ayes) William Bolton, Jeffrey Meyer, Dave Morlan, Rebecca Pelath (Nays): None***

***With a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays, the motion was APPROVED.***

Officers for 2010 are: William Bolton, President; Mick Wulff, Vice-President; Kathy Ceperich, Secretary.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Chair entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of December 2, 2009.

***A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Pelath. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morlan, with the vote as follows: (Ayes) William Bolton, Jeffrey Meyer, Dave Morlan, Rebecca Pelath (Nays): None***

***With a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays, the motion was APPROVED.***

**SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT**

The Chair entertained a motion for approval of the financial reports from 12/31/09 and 01/31/10.

***A motion to approve the financial reports was made by Mr. Meyer. The vote was as follows: (Ayes) William Bolton, Jeffrey Meyer, Dave Morlan, Rebecca Pelath (Nays): None***

***With a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays, the motion was APPROVED.***

**CLAIMS**

The Chair entertained a motion for approval of the claims lists from 01/06/10 and 02/03/10.

***A motion to approve the claims lists was made by Mr. Meyer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morlan, with the vote as follows: (Ayes) William Bolton, Jeffrey Meyer, Dave Morlan, Rebecca Pelath (Nays): None***

***With a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays, the motion was APPROVED.***

Kathy Ceperich entered and was noted present for the record.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

***Outreach: A motion was made by Ms. Ceperich to allocate funds in an amount not to exceed \$400 for participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in March. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meyer, with the vote as follows: (Ayes): William Bolton, Kathy Ceperich, Jeffrey Meyer, Dave Morlan, Rebecca Pelath (Nays): None***

***With a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays, the motion was APPROVED.***

One tree will be given away by raffle. Ms. Ceperich will order tickets.

A workshop was scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, 2010, at 12:30 p.m., at Swing Belly's Restaurant, to discuss the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Arbor Day activities.

Mr. Seilheimer will order seedlings to be given away at the Arbor Day event.

**City Park Trees:** No report

**City Street Trees:** Mr. Seilheimer reported that they are doing some cleanup. He noted that his account has been returned to a full funding level as it was in 2008. This will allow him to get more things done this year.

**Grant Application and Maintenance:** Mr. Meyer asked if any of the stimulus money has gone toward tree care.

Mr. Seilheimer stated that there are the EPA Great Lakes initiative funds for forestry. They anticipate applications going out within the next two weeks. The City is on the list to receive an application which will be due on April 14. Projects will start at the end of June. Funds would be used for the inventory which will make the City eligible for future funding.

Mr. Seilheimer will be attending a grant workshop this month in Indianapolis for the grant the City was awarded for the inventory.

**Purchasing and Tree Planting:** Mr. Seilheimer stated that trees were purchased last fall. They will start planting once the weather warms up.

Mr. Meyer asked if there are enough trees in inventory for anticipated projects this year.

Mr. Seilheimer stated that there are. In the spring they will begin planting in the Decatur Street area for impact on the Memorial Day parade route. After that they will possibly move into the south Ohio Street area.

**Planning Department:** No report

**Urban Forest Plan Maintenance:** Mr. Seilheimer stated that the plan will be developed along with the inventory.

**Tree City:** Mr. Seilheimer reported that the DNR has confirmed receipt of our application. Awards will be announced sometime in April.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Pelath thanked Mr. Seilheimer for his input on the Michigan Boulevard project.

Since more funds are available to Mr. Seilheimer, Mr. Meyer asked if there will be any tree cleanup on school grounds.

Mr. Seilheimer replied that he will not be doing any work on school property as the City has no jurisdiction over their property.

Mr. Meyer asked Mr. Seilheimer if he has been approached by either Barker Woods or Friendship Gardens for assistance.

Mr. Seilheimer stated that Barker Woods is “hands off” since it is a Nature Preserve. They have to keep debris off the road. He said Friendship Gardens has a good handle on things themselves.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

A workshop will be held on Wednesday, February 24, 2010, at 12:30 p.m., at Swing Belly’s Restaurant.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Mr. Meyer – seconded by Ms. Ceperich and unanimously approved.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

/s/ Kathy Ceperich, Secretary