

St. Joseph Tree Board Meeting Minutes
6:00 p.m. – St Joseph MO City Hall.
August 16, 2022

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u> (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)	<u>Term of Office</u>
Members present:	Mechelle Cox, Chairperson	7-2	January 13, 2023
	David Ball	15-0	December 3, 2024
	Mary Jo Harris	1-0	April 4, 2025
	Shelley White	1-0	January 6, 2023
Members absent:	Gregg Mrkvicka, Co-Chair	12-3	January 3, 2023
Staff present:	Peggy Shaw, Code Enforcement Clerk		
	Carol Flury, Neighborhood Support Specialist		
	Jeff Atkins, Parks Department		
	Colleen Armstrong, Storm Water Quality Coordinator		

2022
2:07

Quorum established with three members present.

Mechelle Cox called the meeting to order.

Cox asked for a motion to approve the minutes from March 24, 2022. Ball made the first motion and White seconded the motion. All ayes; zero nays. **MOTION PASSES.**

Old Business: At the beginning of the meeting, everyone introduced themselves around the table per Cox's request.

Councilman Randy Schultz was in attendance and it was mentioned that the City of St Joseph is in need of a Forester. Matt Schwend, the previous Forester has moved and it is believed that the person taking his place is temporarily, Scott Roy at the MO Conservation Dept..

It was discussed about adopting a section of the Parkway. Jeff said there are people who do this.

New Business:

Cox mentioned the Arbor Day Tree planting was a success.

Goal setting and strategic action plan need to be addressed. Park Hills, KY Tree Board Strategic Action Plan booklet was handed out to everyone.

Clint Thompson informed Flury that since the Inflation Reduction Act has passed, there will be some money available. They have allocated 5 million dollars for NW Missouri. Flury will fill out the application for it when it becomes available.

It would be beneficial for everyone to plant one tree. Also, perhaps have a class for homeowners on which trees to plant, where to plant them, etc. In regards to obtaining low cost trees, Great Plains Nursery in Iowa has native, good quality trees. The MO Department of Conservation has saplings for planting.

White recommended a sub committee be started to address the Strategic Plan of the Tree Board. White will chairman the committee. Flury agreed this was a good idea.

On the City website, Harris would like to see the definition and ordinance of the Tree Board. Actually define what the board can actually do. She also recommended there be 7 members rather than only 5 on the board. Perhaps a college student, master naturalist or a master gardener. Tree colleges were discussed such as NWMSU which is a Tree Campus USA

Handed out ordinances that were amended previously It needs to be stressed that native trees need to be planted by homeowners. The Public needs to be aware of permits and items such as Dig Rite and where to plant their trees. An educational brochure needs to be created to hand out when a permit to plant a tree is obtained.

Functions of the Tree Board – needs a mission statement. Bring any ideas you have to the next meeting. Tree Board page on the City’s website needs revamped.

John Holland believes that the Tree Board needs more authority. City Council needs to support the planting of more trees.

If you remove a tree, you must replace it. Put this in the ordinance and include fines if you destroy a tree .Whenever something is being built, the Tree Board should play an intricate part.

Education, Communication equal motivation according to Holland.

Councilman Schultz mentioned that sub-divisions should be required to plant a certain amount of trees.

Add mission statement to the brochure.

Sub-committee should contain how many board members? White has a few ideas and will submit them to Cox and Flury. Need to clarify the purpose of the Tree Board.

The next meeting should have report from the sub-committee on ideas and the One Tree Initiative.

Next meeting will be the 3rd Tuesday of the month on Sept 20, 2022.

Cox asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ball made the first motion and Harris seconded it. All ayes; zero nays. **MOTION PASSES.**

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Peggy Shaw, Recording Secretary