

**MINUTES - BLUE ISLAND FORESTRY BOARD
JUNE 17, 2010 - 7:00 P.M.
BOARD ROOM, BLUE ISLAND LIBRARY**

Present: Voting Members: Perry Recker, Mike Sklom, Dan Lynch, Bob Gronko
Non-voting members: Julie Sklom, Barb Recker, Sandy Quinn
City Advisers: Ken Stachulak
Guests: Fabiola Quiroz

The meeting was called to order by President Recker at 7:05 p.m. The May minutes were approved by M. Sklom.

Organizational Policy & Structure

- A. Ken reported that so far there have been two donations totaling \$650.00. These have been added to the receipt book and thank you letters have gone out. Ken talked to a representative from MetroSouth, and we should expect another donation.
- B. Mayor has not yet appointed an Urban Forestry Manager.
- C. Jennifer Orr would like a licensing agreement with us protecting her photos from being used without her permission. Ken will have city attorney look over the agreement. Sandy suggested that it might be a good thing to have this done fairly quickly so that photos can be used for a display board at events.
- D. Discussion was held concerning tree/donor identification tags/plaques. All agreed this was important, but further discussion was tabled since there is no money for this, at present, and this should be a committee project.

Action Program & Projects

- A. Vermont St. planting - Ken reported that weeds are coming up. It was decided that whomever could help would meet Monday, June 21 at 9:30 a.m. to weed and re-mulch. Ken would supply tools and mulch.
- B. Current projects
 - i. We need to report our doings to newspapers, and we need a Press Secretary. Nothing to report at present and no one ready to be press secretary. This will happen!
 - ii. Bob, Perry, Dan, and Julie met to trim the trees over the vegetable garden in Memorial Park. It went well and had park support.
 - iii. Perry met with Helen Denham from Riverdale Park Commission. Riverdale is a tree city, and Helen likes recognition events, i.e. 100 year old tree celebration. This sparked some animated discussion about things we could do - oldest tree project which could kick-off an inventory drive, ward battle to identify biggest/oldest tree: Battle of the Wards. We need to do something like this to trigger interest and awareness in what we are doing.
 - iv. Tree City Application is not yet complete, but Ken is working on it.
 - v. 127th & Gregory - this should be our next project. Fabiola Quiroz, a guest, offered to look at the site. She is a landscape designer.
 - vii. Ken met with Christy Webber about green space on Western Avenue. She will get back to him.
 - viii. Perry has started a spreadsheet in hopes of beginning tree inventory soon. Ken suggested that Jason might be able to help with using GPS.

Next meeting: July 15, 2010

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.