

## **MINUTES - BLUE ISLAND FORESTRY BOARD**

**February, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.**

### **BLUE ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**PRESENT:** Voting Members - Perry Recker,  
Non-voting Members - Chris Buckner Cheatle, Sandra Quinn, Emily Erickson,  
City Advisers - Ken Stachulak

1. Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Recker.
2. There being no quorum, minutes of Jan 20, 2011 were reviewed but no action taken.
3. Organizational Policy, Structure, Business
  - A. Tree city status - Ken has not yet heard but will e-mail the board when he does.
  - B. Forestry division - City finance department hasn't completed a report for Ken, as yet. Ken reported on winter time activities of the department, mostly around snow removal. Two department employees, Mike M. and Mike B. have signed up for the next round of Treekeepers training classes; these will be held at Chicago State. Perry reported that another BI resident, and participant in the community garden last summer, S. Short, had also signed up for classes. Perry will also be attending as many as possible. Ken reported that a couple of the meeting dates on the website were incorrectly listed. Perry will contact Jason and Jodi to get corrections made.
4. Committee Reports - It was suggested that UFB hold quarterly meetings to brainstorm all committees.
  - A. Installation and planting - Val is working on plans for Veterans Triangle and South section of Vermont & Rexford.
  - B+C. Joint Volunteer recruitment and Maintenance Committee(s) -- Chris and Ken reported that plans are still go to target workdays and recruit volunteers for April 2nd&/or 9th.
  - D. Community Outreach - No report.
  - E. Urban farming - Sandy gave verbal report. There is some uncertainty about the viability of this committee as an part of the Forestry Board; but there are lots of good ideas to be promoted within the city, if not by the UFB, then by others with the encouragement and support of the UFB. Examples discussed were website tips for gardeners, programs for children, and encouragement of rainbarrel use with decoration contests. Also discussed was work of volunteer group that plants and waters decorative flower urns along Western Avenue. Val, and Julie and Chris, and Ken have all been involved. Some urns need to be moved and the watering tractor replaced with an upgraded or newer modal; possibly a small ATV.
  - F. By-laws and Ordinance - Perry reported that he and Mike had met once, made some progress, and plan to continue.

It was recommended that committees continue to try to meet at least once more before next Board meeting on March 24th.
5. New Business - Chris Buckner Cheatle agreed to stand for appointment as a voting member to replace Tammy Johnson.
6. Meeting adjourned at 8:05(?) p.m.

Next meetings: March 24, 2011, April 14, May 19, June 16th, etc.