

City of Ladue
Beautification, Open Space and Tree Advisory Committee – planning session
January 15, 2021
Zoom Conference

Members present

Laure Hulverson, Nancy Ylvisaker, Tom McCarthy and Pat Steiner

Others present

Director of Public Works Anne Lamitola; City Arborist Sean Seed; Administrative Assistant Lori Wrobel; Councilman John Fox, Steven Wheeler planning consultant from Christner Architects, Laurel Harrington, planning consultant from Horner & Shifrin, and resident Larry Gast.

Chairperson Laure Hulverson called the meeting to order.

Agenda and Minutes Approval

Pat made a motion to approve the agenda, Tom seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the agenda was approved as submitted.

Pat made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2020 meeting, Tom seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Public Forum

Larry Gast, 57 Clermont Lane, attended the meeting to observe and learn. He shared his disappointment in the aftermath of Ameren coming through and removing many trees as part of their projects including recent removals on Lindbergh Blvd. He would like tree removal to be avoided when possible. He stated interest in Arbor Day and would like to be added to the email list.

Rodes Park Municipal Park Planning Grant Update

Laurel Harrington of Horner & Shifrin and Steven Wheeler of Christner Architects made a presentation on a draft community survey and the draft Conceptual Master Plan for Rodes Park. A 16-question survey is planned to go out thorough Survey Monkey on January 28th to gauge interest and prioritize potential amenities. The Committee thoughtfully modified the survey questions. Anne will finalize, add language as needed, and add BOSTA and Ladue combined logos. Survey information will be cited on the City website, and an email blast will be sent out to generate participation. Paper copies will be available at City Hall.

Arbor Day 2021 Discussion

The Arbor Day celebration information will be in the newsletter that goes out in early March. Tables, materials and Committee members will be stationed at Public Works and Rodes Park. Saplings will be available at both sites. A tree scavenger hunt will be developed for attendees to find notable trees in the Community. Sean Seed, the City Arborist will be on site. Danny Moncheski of the Missouri Department of Conservation will be invited to attend. Other ideas were presented, and details will be finalized at the next BOSTA meeting.

Project Updates

Anne Lamitola reported that the TreeKeeper software expires at the end of the month and can either expire, we can extract the data for reference, or seek City Council approval for a one-year extension.

Tom made a motion to pursue another year of TreeKeeper software, seconded by Pat. All those present were in favor.

Other Matters Deemed Appropriate

Anne reported since the MSD project has come through the mulch site some residents on Twin Springs have come to the City stating without the screening, they can see highway traffic and have shared concerns about the highway noise. They have requested a meeting with Mayor Spewak and key officials. Discussion ensued. The City is not able to restore the property until MSD has completed the project, as they control a wide temporary construction easement. The conversion of the property into a passive park which will include a trail has community approval and been adopted by City Council. The City will apply for funding in August 2021 for implementation in Calendar Year 2022 Plantings are planned that will create a barrier. Tom McCarthy offered to attend the Twin Springs neighbors meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday February 19th at 7:30 a.m.

Future Meeting dates:

- January 28th is the 1st Rodes Park Community Public Meeting from 4:00 – 5:00 pm
- February 19 – BOSTA meeting
- February 25th is the 2nd Rodes Park Community Public Meeting from 4:00 -5:00 pm
- April 9th – BOSTA meeting
- April 24th Arbor Day

Laure called for the meeting to be adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laure Hulverson