



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Tree Board

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

3:45 PM

Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the Lyman
Anderson building 5201 Fen Oak Dr; Meeting Room
Drumlin: attend virtually via Zoom

Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the Lyman Anderson building 5201 Fen Oak Dr;
Meeting Room Drumlin: attend virtually via Zoom

A. Call To Order

- Present** 8 - Supervisor MICHELE RITT, JAY WEISS, LAURA WYATT, MATT NOONE, CORY RICH, CRAIG KLINKE, CATHY BRODBECK, and TEDWARD ERKER
- Excused** 1 - TIERNEY BOCSI

Also Present: Lisa Johnson, Adam Alves, Brian Wahl

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2023](#) 12.19.2023 MINUTES TREEBOARD POLICY
[MIN-480](#)

Attachments: [2023 MIN-480](#)

A motion was made by RICH, seconded by BRODBECK, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

C. Tree Board Operating Agreement

1. *Create a Tree Board Operating Agreement (Matt leads). This will be an evolving agreement between board members, that can help our team create an environment in how we communicate and operate. Action-oriented agenda items: “decide, brainstorm, weigh in on” – shift from reporting and information sharing to engaging*
 - *Be deliberately engaged*
 - *All members of the board feel valued and respected*
 - *Permission to be unpolished*
 - *Communicate the ask*
 - *Hear from everyone*
 - *Make new members feel welcome*
 - *Follow up on request/tasks*
 - *Start on time / end on time*
 - *Review TB Minutes prior to TB Meetings*

D. Project & General Updates

1. *Tree Board Members check in: no commentary*
2. *Review Tree Board meeting length and meetings back to 3rd Tuesday of every month Retain same time but make 1 hour instead of 1.5 hours*
3. *Student Advisory Tree Board position description:
Query about resolution for youth position – Would be a professional career development opportunity for new career or UW/Tech college student to be an official advisor.
Response from corp. counsel that if a permanent change, Dane County Executive appoints. RITT and Johnson would draft a resolution and pass through Corp. Counsel. If ok to submit, goes through at least one standing committee and full board. The Board does not get to pick the person, the person is appointed by the Executive. Executive’s office takes into account the Board’s recommendation. Corp Counsel said as an alternate option, the Board can invite guests and have a standing action item so person could give input as a guest. Decision to invite a guest interested in tree policy informally as a starting point. Next month will make an action item so Board members can vote formally on it. Can start to work towards a formal advisor position for next summer or fall.*
4. *Tree Board Membership Update Tedward and Tierney are now approved as members.*
5. *Bock Foundation awarded Heritage Tree Project \$5,000 Matt and UTA applied for and received a grant for Heritage Oak Project*
6. *DNR IRA Urban Forestry Grants: Dane County Parks applying, application would be housed in LWRD as they can handle funding, educational components, TCC has a role, Tree Board has a role (educational outreach), CARPC doing mapping, maybe support for growing shade tool and planting trees at schools. Wahl doing a Feb 9 session FAQ on IRA Forestry. Comment period closes Feb 6.*

E. Action Items

1. *General Website Updates corrected members, remove projects that are old, get approval*
2. *Tree Board Workgroup Formation, scheduling*
 - a. *Policy Work group Weiss, Brodbeck, Alves, Johnson, Ritt, Wyatt*
 - i. *Tree Preservation resolution*
 - b. *Outreach Work Group Adam, Lisa, Erker, Rich, Noone, Bosci*
 - j. *Heritage Tree sapling distribution*
 - k. *Tree Board Website*
 - l. *Growing Trees at Schools*
 - m. *Significant Community Trees*
 - c. *Events Work Group (may not be relevant at this time) Remove this workgroup? Ask RITT whether better to keep dormant due to legislative complications.*
3. *Tree Preservation Policy first steps and discussion as time permits – Policy group will discuss*

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

February 20, 2024; March 20, 2024; April 16, 2024; May 21, 2024; June 18, 2024; July 16, 2024; August 20, 2024; September 17, 2024; October 15, 2024; November 19, 2024; December 17, 2024.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjourn

A motion was made by WEISS, seconded by RICH, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Matt Noone, pending board approval