

**CITY OF BATAVIA PUBLIC WORKS**  
200 North Raddant Road, Batavia, IL 60510  
(630) 454-2400 <http://www.cityofbatavia.net>

**AGENDA**  
**BATAVIA TREE COMMISSION**  
Thursday, October 13, 2016, at 5:00 p.m.

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Approval of Minutes: February 10, 2016
3. Commission Vacancies
4. Current Projects and Developments
  - a. Streetscape
  - b. Other
5. Other
  - a. Upcoming Joint Meeting with St. Charles Tree Commission
  - b. Fall Tree Planting
6. Adjournment

TREE COMMISSION

Scott Haines, Chairman  
Gary Holm  
Bob Lootens  
Kevin Summers  
Kathy Vranek

CITY ARBORIST

Frank Saupp

SUB-COMMITTEE

John Higgins

RECORDING SECRETARY

Kathy Montanari

**MINUTES**  
**February 10, 2016**  
**BATAVIA TREE COMMISSION**

PLEASE NOTE: These minutes are not a word-for-word transcription of the statements made at the meeting, nor intended to be a comprehensive review of all discussions. They are intended to make an official record of the actions taken by the Commission and to include some description of discussion points as understood by the minute-taker. They may not reference some of the individual attendee's comments, nor the complete comments if referenced.

**1. Meeting Called To Order**

Chairman Scott Haines called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at the City of Batavia Public Works Facility, located at 200 North Raddant Road in Batavia, Illinois.

**Members Present:** Commissioners Scott Haines, Bob Lootens, John Dillon, Kevin Summers, Kathy Vranek; and City Arborist Frank Saupp

**Members Absent:** Commissioner Gary Holm

**Others Present:** John Higgins and Kathy Montanari, Recording Secretary

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes from September 2, 2015 and October 14, 2015

Maker: Saupp

Second: Dillon

Voice Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent

Minutes placed on file and to be sent to City Council for acceptance

**3. Openlands TreeKeepers**

The group discussed the Openlands TreeKeepers concept. Vranek said Rosemary Henders, a member of the subgroup of the Batavia Women's Club, may be interested in working on it in the future. Henders is currently working on a Batavia Arboretum project with Davey Tree. Steve Matravers of Davey Tree is going to confirm identification of trees and make markers for those trees. If the donor is known, the name will be added to the tree plaque or tag. Matravers will do pruning and is also looking for a volunteer group to mulch.

**4. Recommended and Unacceptable Tree Lists (for parkway planting)**

Dillon asked if it is known what is causing die back in hybrid elms. Haines will monitor 2-3 he has noticed with that condition on Western Avenue and in other locations. He may send a graft for testing. Vranek noted that elms can be affected by lecanium scale, which is caused when insects attach to leaves and branches of trees to feed. They are easy to control with systemic products. Haines said he also saw one on Wolcott between Trentt and Mill. Dillon asked if Autumn Blaze maples would remain on the list of acceptable species; Haines said yes, but they will no longer be included in the 50/50 Parkway Tree Program. Saupp felt that the problem with these trees might be related to current breeding practices. Haines added that the weather conditions have been unusual for several of the past winters. For now, he will avoid planting that species. There was a discussion about State Street Maples, and Haines said the ones on

Western Avenue were bare root stock and grew rather differently. Miyabe Maples may not be a good parkway tree due to possible structural defects. Haines would not rule out planting of American Lindens in the parkway but they can be difficult to obtain.

Motion: To recommend approval of the Recommended and Unacceptable Tree Lists (for parkway planting)  
Maker: Vranek  
Second: Dillon  
Voice Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent

## **5. Arbor Day 2016**

The Arbor Day tree planting is planned for Friday, April 29. Tree Commissioners will be notified of the time and place in case they are available to assist. The planting will likely be done in the City Hall / Riverwalk area.

## **6. Tree City USA Certification**

The City was notified that it has been certified once again as a Tree City USA for the 18<sup>th</sup> year. The awards ceremony is no longer held due to State of Illinois budget issues.

## **7. Commission Vacancy**

If anyone has suggestions for new commission members, they should let Haines know.

## **8. Current Projects and Developments – Update**

### **a. Streetscape**

Haines reported that lights have been installed on Houston Street, and additional landscaping will be done in the spring. There are no other streetscape projects planned at this time.

### **b. Other**

Land has been cleared for the Speedway gas station at Kirk/E. Wilson. Walgreen's will be opening its new downtown store soon. Tanglewood Unit 5 is moving along, with about 6-7 homes currently at different stages of construction. The City will handle parkway tree planting using 10-12 different species.

## **9. Other**

Lootens suggested that the seedlings from the White Oak tree at the cemetery be given out as heritage trees. He also thought an offspring tree should be planted near the parent tree. Lootens asked if it is known where "adopt an oak" trees exist in the community. He would like for the oak tree planted at the cemetery to be identified as a heritage tree. Haines said perhaps heritage oak seedlings can be used for creek projects such as an upland savannah at Tanglewood Park or the creek that runs through the McKee/Deerpath area. Vranek pointed out that the bike bridge that crosses over Kirk Rd. near Cherry could be another tree planting locatin.

## **10. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Saupp and seconded by Dillon to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by  
Kathy Montanari