

Highland Tree Board
Agenda for Regular Meeting
Thursday, June 17, 2020 – 7 PM

We'll meet near the Gazebo at Main Square Park using picnic tables unless you want to bring a lawn chair. We'll use smart phones if information pertaining to the agenda discussion is necessary.

1. Roll Call:

Board Members:

Michael Burns, James Colias; Ron Jackowski; Sarah Krick, Terry Krooswyk; Joan Roback; Richard Underkofler

Invited Town Council Members: Mark Schocke, Council Liaison

Invited Town Staff:

Michael Griffin, Clerk/Treasurer; Mark Knesek, Public Works Director; Brian Bell, Street Department; Kathy DeGuillo-Fox, Redevelopment Director; Alex Brown, Superintendent Parks & Recreation Department; Trever Kinley, Parks Director; Aaron Strombeck, Parks Department

Others: webupdates@theideafactory.us.com; Heather Oaks, Teacher/Sponsor, Highland High School Sustainability Club; Ty Hillemonds, Middle School Science Club; Lance Ryskamp, Highland Community Foundation

2. Minutes: Request for a motion to approve minutes of the last meeting held May 20, 2021.

3. Old Business:

- a. Tree Board Appointments: Michael Burns and Sarah Krick of the HS Sustainability Club were appointed to succeed Connie Sherbondy & Judy Vaughn. Burns for a term ending January 2022; Krick for a term ending January 2024.
- b. Student Conservation Association (SCA) Plantings: This spring 3 trees have been planted at the downtown parking lot; others will be planted behind the Central Fire Station and along the 4th and Conduit Street parkways. Next fall trees may be planted in Sandalwood Subdivision and in Highway Avenue parkways from 5th Street to Cline Avenue after securing approval of adjacent homeowners.
- c. 2021 Arbor Day Tree: Christina Davis, principal of Warren School, believes there may be something wrong with the dogwood planted on Arbor Day. She thinks it might be Dogwood Anthracnose and would like someone to check it out. Colias and Jackowski shared a response from Kyle Daniel from Purdue after reviewing pictures of the tree, "All native dogwoods get anthracnose of varying degrees. It usually isn't a problem if the tree isn't under any other stressors." Sounds like all is well as long as we keep the tree watered. Let's keep it under observation. Colias will take care of fertilization next spring.
- d. Seedlings: Heather Oaks reported she has a lot of baby seedlings popping up in her yard. She inquired if we would like club members to care for them so they could plant them eventually. Heather emailed the group reporting Ron Jackowski stopped by and gave her some GREAT info on how to save some of these rogue seedlings that are popping up. She is going to move some around on her property using the technique he suggested and then in the fall move them to the MS/HS greenhouse so the students can take care of them. Hopefully, in a few years Highland will have access to some trees! Will be mostly oak/tulip/redbud any maybe white pine. She asked HS Sustainability club members to reach out to/work with Mr. Hillemonds and the MS Science club on this project in the fall. Hillemonds is SUPER knowledgeable and very excited to be involved with this. Also think about raising some perennials in the green house from the seeds in the pollinator garden for sale or for transplanting to other gardens around STO.

- e. Tree Pruning: In follow-up to his inspection of newly planted trees around town, Ron Jackowski pruned trees where they needed it at Southridge School.
 - f. New Park Department Tree Care Leader: Aaron Strombeck has been appointed to succeed David Farrara. Contact information: Cell phone 219-798-8236; Email: astrombeck@highland.in.gov.
4. New Business: None Known
 5. Discussion Topics: Comments from Board Members, the Public and/or Visitors: This item of business is confined to announcements of intention to bring a future action, or requests for the preparation of administrative work product for future consideration. In no instance may a matter for final action be taken up under this item of business.
 6. Next Meeting: September 16, 2021. Board meetings will be canceled in July, August and December 2021. Instead, we will communicate by email during these months.
 7. Adjournment