

**Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2010**

In Attendance:

Karen Fields, Chair
Mike Lane
Greg Sunday
Steve Welte
Veronica Craig
Ben Strickler, Parks and Recreation Representative
Bob Breen, Parks Board Liaison
Guests: Jane Corley and Boyd Miller

Meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

Minutes: January's meeting minutes were approved without any changes

Introduction: Guests Jane Corley and Boyd Miller have recently moved to Fairfield from Utah. He has a degree in Forestry. They read about the EC and decided to attend a meeting and find out more about it.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles: Veronica brought in articles about a "new and improved" chestnut, Wake Nation, and the demise of a legendary elm tree.

Hours Spent on EC Activities: Karen-4, Greg-1, Bob-.5, Steve-2, Mike -1, Veronica-1.

Adopt-a-Roadway: Karen and her daughters gathered one large bag of trash. Liz will do Muskopf Road's March clean-up.

Parks Board Report

Bob reported that the meeting had a light agenda. The Canada Goose problem on the City's South Trace was the main focus. Various approaches to controlling this nuisance bird were discussed, including the use of dogs trained to chase flocks off the course.

The Commission suggested that the development of the area known as "Black Bottom" could be identified with a sign and an article in the upcoming *Fairfield Flyer*.

Parks Department Report

Website Update: Ben had not received the stats for last month. He will e-mail them when they become available.

Memorial Tree Grove Update: Removal of the "X-ed" trees continues. The walkway materials are frozen and installation will have to wait until it is warmer.

Tree Lottery: Winners have been notified. Ben passed out a list of the last two year's winners and their tree choices. Vouchers will be going out soon.

EAB Update: The quarterly report was both e-mailed to EC members and included in this month's meeting packet. There was one change on the quarantine map – only the southeastern corner of Ohio is now exempt from restrictions.

Fairfield will be using injectable insecticide to treat its large public ash trees in parks, etc.

Commission Reports

Final 2009 Report: Ben added EC volunteer hours, the tree lottery and the sustainability plan (adopted in Dec.'09) to the final report.

2010 Goals: As previously decided, 2010 will be "The Year of Water." Goals will be discussed at the March meeting. Mike Lane will be recognized by the Parks Board at their February meeting. EC members are encouraged to attend.

Other Business

Tree City USA: The City of Montgomery is hosting this year's luncheon. Invitations will arrive sometime this month. Ben will keep the EC posted.

Friends of Fairfield: Winners have been notified. Presentations will be made at the February 22 City Council Meeting.

Administrative: Ben is working on the new EC logo for shirts.

Street Tree Inventory: Laptop holders will be ordered. As yet, no data changes.

Birdbath Workshop: Tuesday, March 16 at 6:30 pm at the CAC. The birdbaths will be made from cement poured into a sand form. Steve will contact Tim Coats to invite him.

Home Expo: 400 redbud trees have been ordered for the giveaway. It was suggested that information about rain gardens, rain chains and barrels be available to attendees.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 3, 2010, 6:00 pm, CAC

Calendar:

Parks Board Meeting – February 9, 2010, 5:30 pm, CAC

City Council Meeting (Awards) – February 22, 2010, 7:00 pm, City Building

EC Meeting – March 3, 2010, 6:00pm, CAC

Birdbath Workshop – Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 6:30 pm, CAC

Home Expo – April 10, 2010, CAC

Earth Day – April 22, 2010

Tree City USA Luncheon – April 23, 2010, Montgomery, OH

River Sweep – May 1, 2010

Adjournment: at 7:15 pm.