

Urban Forestry Advisory Board

Minutes of December 11, 2025

Members Present: Mr. Gerald Checco, Chair; Ms. Maria Dienger; Mr. Scott Beuerlein; Ms. Berteena Rollins; Mr. Mark Bambach; Ms. Angie Strunc; Mr. Bob Vickrey.

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Mr. Garrett Dienno; Ms. Tiffany Hendrickson; Mr. Jon Harmon; Ms. Crystal Courtney; Mr. Jacob Edwards; Ms. Hailey Buhrlage

Meeting: Mr. Checco called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. A Quorum was in attendance.

Meeting Agenda: December meeting agenda approved.

Meeting Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of October 9th, 2025, all members were in favor.

Monthly Activity Report: The monthly activity reports for October and November were submitted to members. Mr. Dienno highlighted that the preventative maintenance RFP bid has been finalized with procurement. Multi bidders won and the work in the neighborhoods of Mt. Adams, Mt. Auburn, OTR, Pendleton, Queensgate, West End, Downtown, West Price Hill, Riverside, Sayler Park, Sedamsville will begin by mid-December. Garrett Dienno and Maria Dienger completed the freshman class of the tree commission academy.

Board Member Update:

Mr. Jon Harmon gave the board an update on current members. On December 10th, 2025 city council approved Mr. Mark Bambach reappointment to UFAB. Crystal Russell sent her letter of resignation from the Urban Forestry Advisory Board. The board has two Business Representative seats open. Applicants can complete an application on the City Manager's website under manager-appointed boards quick link portal. Members selected seven 2026 Urban Forestry Advisory Board meeting dates. March 12th, April 9th, May 14th, July 9th, September 10th, November 12th and December 10th.

Report of DNR Urban Forestry Supervisor:

Mr. Dienno presented the proposed Urban Forestry 2027(FY28) budget and work plan. Projected expenses and the Urban Forestry assessment review; spending on the right-of-way trees within the city. Mr. Vickrey motioned to approve the budget, all in favor.

Local Initiative:

Gerald Checco discussed his project with the Clifton Historical Society on the history of legacy trees within the Clifton neighborhood. Gerald requested assistance of Urban Forestry to provide CAGIS maps, Garrett Dienno will schedule a meeting with Matt Dibona (parks computer system analyst) to gather data for the project.

Feedback:

Maria Dienger and Crystal Courtney requested members provide feedback on their experience while on the board and how to improve or what goals staff and members would like to see in 2026.

Meeting Adjournment: Mr. Gerald Checco adjourned at 11:27 am

Meeting: The next regular meeting of the UFAB will be held March 12th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the ***Bettman Natural Resource Center, 4 Beech Lane.***

Approved:

 .

Gerald R. Checco, Chair