

Urban Forestry Advisory Board

Minutes of December 12, 2024

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

Members Absent: Ms. Crystal Russell; Mr. Greg Long; Mr. Scott Beuerlein.

Staff Present: Mr. Garrett Dienno; Ms. Crystal Courtney; Ms. Tiffany Hendrickson; Mr. Jon Harmon; Mr. Kurt Kastner.

Meeting: Mr. Checco called the meeting to order at 10:05 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 November 14th, 2024, all members were in favor.

Monthly Activity Report: The monthly activity report for November was submitted to members. Mr. Dienno highlighted the November report with a discussion of the sidewalk safety policy. Crystal Courtney has a meeting scheduled with DOTE to discuss the topic of sidewalk safety and the sidewalk repair contract. North district forester, Kurt Kastner gave updates on his current construction projects in the North districts.

Report of DNR Urban Forestry Supervisor:

Three candidates have been reviewed for the lead arborist position. This position will lead the in-house tree crew that will be coming in late 2025. In-house crew will tackle all emergency and preventative maintenance.

Law:

CMC 743- Jon Harmon is working with Kevin Frank with Law on the revisions. Final draft should be available at the next board meeting, February 13th, 2025.

Assessment Budget 2026:

Crystal Courtney discussed the structure of the Urban Forestry program. Gave an overview of how funding is made through the assessment and the function of the assessment. A summary of the assessment process was given to members. Mr. Gerald Checco motioned to approve the 2026 assessment budget/workplan, all in favor.

2025 UFAB

Members selected the 2025 meeting dates to be scheduled every other month through the year 2025.

Presentation:

Maria Dienger of city planning will present at the next board meeting with an overview of how city planning functions with urban forestry.

Meeting Adjournment: Ms. Angie Strunc adjourned at 11:39 am

Meeting: The next regular meeting of the UFAB will be held February 13th, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the ***Bettman Natural Resource Center, 4 Beech Lane.***

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gerald R. Checco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gerald" and last name "Checco" clearly legible. The middle initial "R." is written in a smaller, more compact style between the first and last names.

Gerald R. Checco, Chair