Urban Forestry Advisory Board
Minutes of September 10, 2026

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

Members Absent: Mr. Scott Bererlein; Mr. Mark Bambach

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

Meeting: Mr. Checco called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. A Quorum was in attendance.

Meeting Agenda: Gerald motioned to approve the September agenda.

Meeting Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of July 9th, 2026, all members were in favor.

Monthly Activity Report: Garrett Dienno highlighted the Urban Forestry Supervisor Report for June – August 2026. The August storm damage dropped a significant amount of rainfall and caused roughly $120,000 in contractual costs. Generated 1000 customer service requests for urban forestry to assess. The preventative maintenance (PM) contract RFP bids came in as more than expected, scoring those bids took place on September 9th, 2026. Bids go for negotiations, which could take between 3-4 weeks. Urban forestry is on track to begin PM work starting November 1st, 2026 in Hyde Park, Evanston, East Walnut Hills, College Hill, Mt. Airy and Northside neighborhoods. The Planting contract will expire in February 2027 and the same process will take place to bid. Biochar requirements will be included in the new planting bid. Urban Forestry welcomed 4 full-time employees, 2 of which were promotions.

Urban Forestry Events: A night in the trees to celebrate the ReLeaf program and tree pick up will be October 14th at Mad Tree Brewing with additional day for pickup being October 17th. Let's grow local will be hosted in Madisonville on October 27th. In partnership with our community partners, UF will be planting a total of 100 trees in the neighborhood with John P. Parker, Shroeder High School and Best Point Children's Home; Bramble Park being the main partner sites. Of the 100 trees, 37 will be planted in the Right-of-way along Homer.

Meeting Adjournment: Mr. Gerald Checco adjourned at 10:46 am

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

Approved:

Gerald R. Checco, Chair

09/10/2026