



Independence Tree Commission Minutes

April 9, 2025 5:30 PM

Vaile Mansion - 1500 N. Liberty St.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm.

Attendees: Charlotte Olejko, David Campbell, Darla Eames, Tim O'Neil, Jim Hannah, Twyla Olson-Hahn

Guest: Jeremiah Coomes

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

1. Minutes - March 12, 2025

December and March minutes read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Trees for Woodlawn Cemetery: Some trees are being procured at KAT Wholesale. Perry's crew to plant and water.

NEW BUSINESS

1. George Owens Nature Park - Jeremiah Coomes, Park Naturalist
2. City Tree Ordinance

Commissioner Olson-Hahn read the proposed ordinance. Discussion followed concerning some issues with the new regulations. Will follow up at the next meeting.

3. Uptown Garden Faire

April 26, 8 am - 2 pm at the Uptown Market.

Can accommodate more vendors. Booth is \$30 for a 10x10' area.

4. Tree Tour

The Tree Commission is considering a tour of UL Lumber this summer; date to be determined, and a tree tour of the city for historical legacy trees, possibly in September. Public would be invited to this tour. Need ideas for stops and information to provide.

TREE TALK

Firebird Crabapple - Matus Sargentii 'Select A'. This is a more compact form of Sargent Crabapple. 8' h x 12' w. Pink buds open to white flowers from April to May. Yellow fall color, but not vibrant. Bright red crabapples, 1/4" in diameter, persist into winter. Excellent disease resistance. Can also be multi-trunked. Matus is Latin for apple. Specific epithet Sargentii for Charles Sprague Sargent, first director of the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University. Firebird is a brand name patented by Johnson's Nursery Plant Selections. It came from an open-pollinated seedling of a Sargent Crabapple in Wisconsin.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting - Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm. Next meeting date moved to May 21 due to scheduling conflicts.