



# Shade Tree Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

Municipal Building Annex

**Members Present:** Amy Banks, Matt Coleman, Jo Benjamin, David May, Jr., Dennis Epperson, John Thomason,

**Members absent:** Milan Blake, Dale Hughes, Tim Henderson, Will Jones

**Others in Attendance:** Urban Forester Dan Hartman; Parks and Recreation secretary Karen Stovall; Cleveland Utilities forester Nick Romito; City Manager Joe Fivas

**Called Meeting to Order:** Matt Coleman called the meeting to order.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Waive Reading of Minutes:**

Minutes were emailed to members prior to the meeting. **Jo Benjamin made a motion to approve the November 28, 2017 meeting minutes. John Thomason seconded the motion. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion carries.**

### **Urban Forestry Report:**

Prior to the meeting, Dan Hartman emailed his 2017 activity report to board members.

Dan noted that he did get the Tree City USA application turned in and it was accepted. Dan stated he would like to change the date of the Community Tree Planting from February 24 to March 10. This would give us a better chance for good weather. Dan also spoke to Nick Lillios who has a child in the Scouts and they would like to be involved in it, but they had a conflict on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Scouts would be great for mulching and watering. Matt Coleman asked if we would also shift the Rotary presentation. Dan said yes, move the whole event. No official time has been set, but Dan was thinking 10am-4pm. The trees have been ordered (85 for that section), his crew will have do a rough dig of the holes, and if we can get 100 people to plant, we could definitely have the trees in in that time frame. He's also got shrubs for bank stabilization coming in also, because there are some spots real close to the water. Dan plans to assign one of his crew per each 10 people planting, just to answer questions and help. Dan mentioned maybe we should ask the nearby restaurants (Food City, Logan's, ChickFilA) if they want to provide some food or drinks.

### **Removal at 1750 N. Ocoee:**

Dan Hartman emailed a removal request to members on January 9<sup>th</sup>, location is 1750 N. Ocoee Street. The request is due to sidewalk replacement. The sidewalk originally was narrowed down to approximately 36 inches to get by the tree, but the new walk needs to be 60 inches wide to meet ADA requirements. Dan inspected the tree and considers it to be in poor condition. There are several dead limbs present and when trimmed, it will remove 1/3 to 1/2 of the canopy. There

are also some decayed areas present. To make some sort of bend around the tree, we would be going on to private property, which we can't do. Jo Benjamin asked why this section of sidewalk is even being replaced. David May said someone had complained about it, that it had some pretty good cracks in it around the tree and once the City is notified, they have to fix it so they aren't held liable. John Thomason stated he's much less concerned knowing it's a Box Elder tree, they aren't highly valued trees. He asked how much of a challenge would it be, in future situations, for Council to ask a homeowner to give us a foot of sidewalk, not asking for a foot of their property, just sidewalk. Joe Fivas said he believes we would have to have an easement. David May said we should get something in place so that in the future if we have a nice healthy tree that we'd like to save, we would have the option to ask the property owner for that. Dan said he will replace it most likely with an Oak tree approximately 12 feet tall. Dan said comments will be taken through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Matt Coleman stated we can vote on the removal now and if any comments come in by January 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dan can email the Board and they can amend their vote. **David May made a motion to approve the removal of the tree at 1750 N. Ocoee Street. John Thomason seconded the motion. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion carries.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Downtown Master Plan:**

Matt Coleman asked Joe Fivas if there was still a meeting planned for February 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss downtown. Joe stated they are still working through a contract and hope to be ready within the first couple of weeks in February and assured that Board will get an invitation.

### **Reports from members:**

Amy Banks asked about the Crepe Myrtles in front of Hardwick house that got butchered, are we thinking let them pop back out or what? Dan Hartman said he believed that was what the two of them agreed on last time they talked about it. Jo Benjamin said she thought we were going to take them out. Amy said they had talked about that, but looking at the huge stalks, thought maybe it would be better to let them sprout back. Jo said it shouldn't have happened in the first place because they are City trees, not privately owned, and she called Dan the day it happened and thought something would happen right away, that they would be removed. She said it makes people think that we approve of that kind of pruning. There are also two on Centenary pruned that way and all of those on City property should be removed so it doesn't suggest to other homeowners that it is okay to butcher Crepe Myrtles. Jo said we let it go when they (Lee University) did the ones behind what is now Pangle Hall, why do we do that, we should take a stand. Jo said Bethany (liason for Lee) told her and Amy that it had all been settled, the trees would be removed, and Lee would pay for replacement. Dan said that is the first he's heard of that, no one has contacted him about it at all. Amy told Jo that she and Dan had a two second discussion about leaving the trees, that it wasn't a decision at all, and then asked Dan if he can remove those and get some great big ones. Amy said she also wanted them taken out immediately after it happened and the only reason she had a moment of thinking about keeping them was because they had been there so long. John Thomason said technically it's trespassing and vandalism when they do that. David May said just pull them all and replace and Dan said he would. Amy said she thinks the message has gotten through now, that they've talked to enough people about it now that hopefully it's not going to happen again.

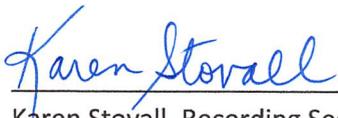
Amy Banks said at 2300 Ocoee Street, right next to Ocoee Middle School, there is a little house there that, for years, you couldn't even see, has now been clear cut and there is not a tree in sight. It appears that whoever did it didn't follow our ordinance at all. Dan Hartman said they don't have to get permission for anything under 28 inches. Amy said there were plenty of trees there that were bigger than that. Matt Coleman said maybe we should send someone over and measure and issue a citation if necessary. Amy said she's not sure if the stumps are still there now.

Amy Banks asked Dan Hartman about the Hollies on the Greenway, if they are okay. Dan said there is one that's really struggling, possibly wind burn from transport, but he's already talked to someone about replacing it.

Dennis Epperson inquired about the gravel parking lot that Lee University did on 20<sup>th</sup> Street, if there was ever any resolution on that, weren't they supposed to put some trees there? David May said he doesn't think there was an intention to build anything, he thought it was specifically for overflow parking from the ballfield. He asked Dan to send a letter asking them to plant some trees.

Jo Benjamin asked about a large hole that's been dug in the island where 17<sup>th</sup> Street meets Highland, that has really messed up a tree. Dan Hartman said he's not sure what's going on there, he doesn't know who did it. It's a Bald Cypress and someone has dug out the entire side of the tree and put orange fencing around it and left it. They've removed 50% of the root system. The tree is at least 20 years old. Our ordinance states no work can be done on ROW without permission. Jo said it's been that way at least 3 weeks. Dennis Epperson asked if we couldn't send letters to gas companies and such to notify them of what our ordinance says. John Thomason said they are responsible to contact Dan.

No further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:45pm.



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Karen Stovall, Recording Secretary



**1750 N Ocoee**



**1750 N Ocoee**



**1750 N Ocoee**



**1750 N Ocoee**

## Karen Stovall

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**From:** Dan Hartman  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 12:31 PM  
**To:** walkocoeab@yahoo.com; Dale R. Hughes (drh@sonlightllc.com); Dale Hughes; David May; Epperson, Dennis (eppersonhomes@gmail.com); BENS2@bellsouth.net; Matthew Coleman; Milan Blake (Milan.Blake@gmail.com); thenderson@clevelandutilities.com; John Thomason (thomason167@charter.net); Wjones@jonesmanagement.com  
**Cc:** Nick Romito (nromito@clevelandutilities.com); Karen Stovall  
**Subject:** N. Ocoee Box Elder removal

Hi everyone,

The comment period for the Box Elder on N. Ocoee Street ended on Tuesday, January, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and I received zero comments on it. It was approved for removal at the last meeting, so I have scheduled the removal for this Monday, January 29, weather permitting. The stump will be removed at the same time so the sidewalk can be completed as quickly as possible.

Contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks

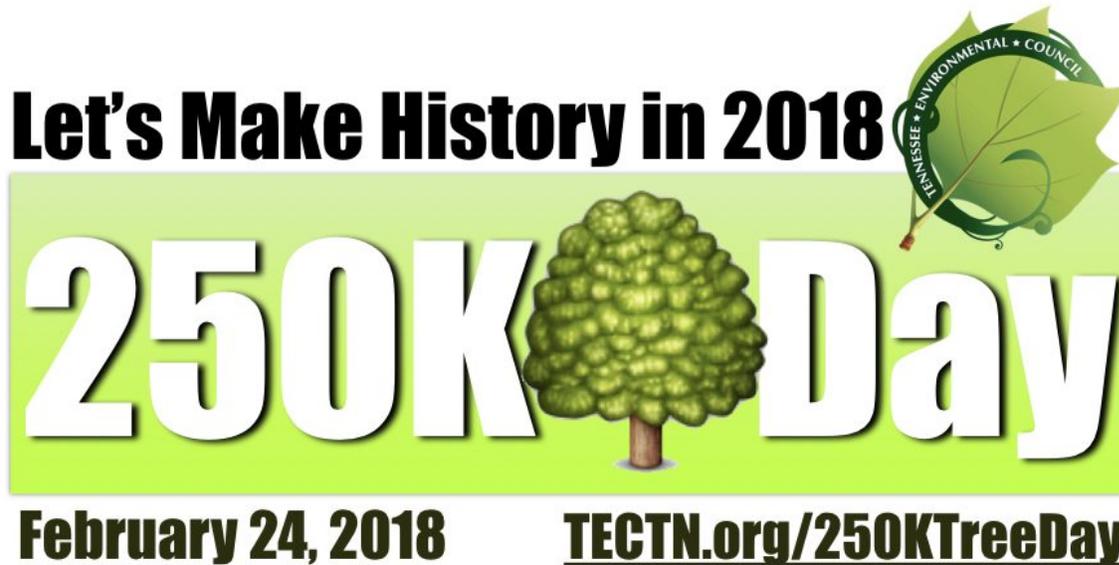
Dan

Dan Hartman  
Asst Director of Parks & Recreation/Urban Forester  
P.O. Box 1519  
Cleveland, TN. 37364-1519  
Phone – 423-472-4551  
Cell-423-593-5660  
Fax – 423-559-3366

## **Parks, Recreation & Forestry 2017 Annual Report**

- Received - 177 citizen calls about weeds
- Received - 316 citizen calls about trees
- Received - 34 Plan Review question calls
- Received – 40 calls about Parks
- Conducted - 391 on-site tree inspections
- Trimmed – 2574 trees plus 4 1/2 miles of Greenway trail plus
- Removed - 157 trees
- Planted – 157 trees on street row and within Parks, plus 400 live stakes for bank stabilization along Greenway
- Designated 23 Honor/Memorial trees
- Storm calls received – 11
- Planted 8 Monarch Butterfly restoration gardens in Fletcher Park and Greenway
- Distributed 300 tree seedlings at Cleveland State Environmental Fair
- Produced 518 cubic yards of wood chips
- Applied new mulch on all flowerbeds and trees at: Soccer field, 1<sup>st</sup> Street Square, Downtown trees, Wildwood & Inman landscape bed, East & Inman landscape bed, and Tinsley Dog Park.
- Sprayed herbicide for weed control: all guardrails, downtown sidewalks & tree -wells, alleys, street islands, sign post, fences and airport.
- Mowed all city parks and street ROW along Keith St., 25<sup>th</sup> St., North Lee Highway, Stuart Road, Paul Huff Parkway, airport, Ocoee Crossing, Greenway, and APD 40/64 By-pass
- Mowed vacant Lots for Code Enforcement – 2196 Timber Trace, 975 Wildwood Ave, 1312 Teak Ct., Cree Lane, 1270 S. Ocoee St., 1660 Blythe Ave, 1665 Chippewa Ave, 1660 Winnetawka Ave., 780 Gaut Ave.
- Picked up 3735 bags of litter from Keith St., 25<sup>th</sup> St., North Lee Highway, Stuart Road, Paul Huff Highway, and APD 40/64 by-pass as needed.
- Installed Halloween Banners, Christmas Banners and Christmas decorations for Main Street Cleveland
- Held 5 Weekend tournaments at Tinsley Park
- Applied new infield mix to Tinsley Park Ball fields
- Installed 14 new trash Containers
- 2 Forestry employees attended TN Urban Forestry Council Annual conference in Knoxville
- Urban Forester:
  - Conducted Arbor Day ceremony-received 25th Tree City U.S.A. Award and conducted the Most Unique Tree Contest
  - Conducted Arbor Day event with Food City grocery store – planted a Kousa Dogwood with 99 school children
  - Spoke to Noon Rotary Club
  - Sunrise Rotary Club
- Attended:
  - Shade Tree Board Meetings
  - Cleveland State Environmental Fair
  - National Recreation & Parks Annual Conference
  - Tennessee Urban Forestry Annual Conference
  - Attended ADA training for Recreation and Supporting Facilities at Montgomery Bell State Park

250K Tree Day — Save The Date: February 24, 2018  
by [Jeff Barrie](#) | Aug 8, 2017



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On February 24 2018, we will plant 250,000 native tree seedlings across Tennessee.\* This will be the largest community-tree-planting event in Tennessee history, and is the largest tree-planting event in the United States ([click here](#) to learn about other tree-planting efforts across the US). The Council is seeking sponsors and donors to cover the costs of seedlings and logistics of planning this event. If you would like to make a contribution and add your name and logo to our list of sponsors, please contact [jeff@tectn.org](mailto:jeff@tectn.org) ASAP. We give away seedlings at no cost to volunteers who agree to plant them on February 24 and post pictures and/or videos of your efforts.

**Timeline:**

December 1 — Registration for free trees opens until February 1, 2018

February 23th, 2018 week of– Tree-planters pick up trees at the distribution center of your choice

February 24th, 2018 — Plant those seedlings and post your pictures

May 15th, 2018 — Check for survivability and leaf out

June-October — Water as necessary

\* Actual numbers may vary depending upon funding, volunteers, weather, and other factors

<https://tectn.org/250ktreeday/>



Banner photo, LARRY C. BOWERS

**MEMBERS OF CLEVELAND'S** two Rotary clubs joined with Cleveland Shade Tree Board members Tuesday, for a check presentation between the city's Building and Planning departments. The partnership is planning a big Arbor Day celebration in the spring, and Tuesday's gathering was the first step in the environmental effort.

# Rotarians, Tree Board plan for big Arbor Day

By **LARRY C. BOWERS**  
Staff Writer

Cleveland's two Rotary clubs, the city's Shade Tree Board and others are planning a massive community event for Arbor Day in the spring.

Sunrise Rotary and Noonday Rotary are responding to a national project initiated by Rotary International President Ian Riseley, who has challenged all Rotary members to plant trees.

Riseley said, "It is my hope that the result of this effort will be far greater than the environmental benefit these 1.2 million new trees will bring."

In meeting Riseley's goal, the two local Rotary clubs are sponsoring a massive tree-planting on Saturday, Feb. 24, in partnering with Cleveland's Shade Tree Board, and Urban Forester Dan Hartman.

Hartman also plans to register the Cleveland event in the Tennessee Environmental Council's 250K Tree Day this year.

This Tree Day project, also scheduled for Feb. 24, is for communities to select a location and plant trees — involving volunteers.

Involving the Rotary clubs in this Cleveland effort will immediately involve 181 volunteers (the combined membership of the two Rotary clubs).

Rotary International had targeted its tree-planting effort for Earth Day on April 22, and for July 1, but the Cleveland's Arbor Day plans should fit in nicely.

Riseley, in explaining his initiative, said, "I believe the greater

**"It is my hope that the result of this effort will be far greater than the environmental benefit these 1.2 million new trees will bring."**

— Ian Riseley

result will be a Rotary that recognizes our responsibility, not only to the people of our planet, but to the planet itself."

A number of Rotary members gathered downtown Tuesday at the conclusion of a Shade Tree Board meeting.

The partnership appears to be a good fit,

with Sunrise Rotary President Matthew Coleman and Noonday Rotary member Will Jones being members of the Shade Tree Board. Jones was representing Noonday President Bill Brown at the check presentation.

Coleman and Brown said, "We've been working on this since last March." They added that it is great to be able to work collectively, and to work with the Shade Tree Board.

Hartman, the city's urban forester, will coordinate the effort, and explained plans Tuesday.

He will use the funds from the Rotary clubs to buy 181 trees for the massive planting on Feb. 24, a tree for each Cleveland Rotarian. The planting will be about a week before 2018's actual Arbor Day on March 2.

The trees will range between 8 and 12 feet tall. The first 87 to be

planted will go along the new Janice Casteel Greenway Connector, from North Ocoee, in front of Ocoee Crossing, underneath Keith Street and on into Tinsley Park.

Hartman said the remaining 94 trees will be placed at selected sites throughout the city. Several are expected to be located along

the Cleveland Greenway.

Cameron Fisher, chairman of the city's Greenway Advisory Board, also attended Tuesday's ceremony

The city forester said the trees will be various types, sizes, shapes and colors. The February event will probably be the largest single planting ever for the commu-

nity.

The Rotary International project, an integral part of this community effort, requires that one tree be planted for each club member.

All Rotary clubs that meet the established criteria will earn a special 2017-18 Environmental Award patch.

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[City of Cleveland, TN - Government](#) shared [Rotary Club of Cleveland's](#) [post](#).

11-29-17

Thank you [Rotary Club of Cleveland](#) and [Bradley Sunrise Rotary Club](#) for your donation of \$4,000 to be used for planting trees along the Greenway!





**Rotary Club of Cleveland**

Bradley Sunrise Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Cleveland joined together today to present a \$4000 donation to the City of Cleveland, TN - Shade Tree Board to be used for the planting of trees along The Greenway. This joint effort is part of Rotary International's "a tree for every Rotarian" program.