



**Horticulture, Ecology and Beautification Committee
Committee Meeting Agenda
August 18, 2015
4:30 PM
Dielmann Meeting Room 2**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. Approval of July 8, 2015 Horticulture, Ecology and Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes**
- 5. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Emerald Ash Borer Subcommittee Update***
 - 1. EAB Subcommittee Meeting Summary**
Summary: EAB Subcommittee Meeting Summary from August 9, 2015.
 - B. Arbor Day Flyer***
- 6. New Business**
 - A. Audubon International Certification of Golf Course***
 - B. Farmers Market - Plant Swap***
- 7. Business from Members**
- 8. Business from Staff Liaison**
- 9. Adjourn**



Horticulture, Ecology and Beautification Committee
Committee Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2015
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1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Fran Cantor	Chair
Susan Baseley	Vice-Chair
Rachel Eilbott	
Tracy Grass	
Nancy Meyer	
Margie Richards	
James Graham	
Claire Chosid	(Absent)
Sharon Stott	Asst to the City Administrator
Dave Kreuter	Councilman

A. Introductions

3. Approval of Agenda

Fran Cantor motioned to amend the agenda to include the following discussion items under Section 6.b.
 Business from Members:

- Meeting Times
- Educational Garden Tour
- Raingarden Poster
- Tree Ordinance Update
- Wall Garden

Committee approved amended agenda unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of May 13, 2015 Horticulture, Ecology and Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes

- Sue Baseley moved to accept the minutes. Nancy Meyer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Cantor, Baseley, Eilbott, Grass, Meyer, Richards, Graham
ABSENT:	Chosid

5. Unfinished Business

A. Set Date for Arbor Day 2016

- Committee discussed dates for Arbor Day 2016 in order to avoid conflicts with other Arbor Day and Earth Day events in the area.

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- Nancy Meyer moved to have the Arbor Day 2016 event on Sunday, May 1, 2016, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Millennium Park. Margie Richards seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Set Date for Beautification Contest 2016

- Committee discussed dates for the Biennial Beautification Contest in FY16.
- Rachel Eilbott moved to set the date of the Beautification Contest garden tour for Wednesday, June 8, 2016. Tracy Grass seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Tappmeyer Woods Update

- Fran Cantor updated committee on volunteer activities coordinated by Claire Chosid along the property adjacent to the Tappmeyer House in Millennium Park.
- Recent volunteer efforts have included weeding, honeysuckle removal, and composting, and mulching trails.
- Fran Cantor encouraged HEB members to assist with volunteering occasionally. Volunteers generally work on Saturdays or Sundays at 10 a.m. at the Tappmeyer House.

D. Street Banner

- Committee discussed two banner design choices (Option #1 and Option #2) submitted by The Flag Loft for the street poles along Olive Boulevard.
- Both designs were similar in that each included Monarch butterflies with butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*).
- Committee selected Option #2.
- **Action Item:** Sharon Stott will notify Public Works Director Jim Heines of the committee's decision so he can finalize the order with The Flag Loft.

6. New Business

A. Tree Management Report

Fran Cantor reviewed the Creve Coeur Tree Management Report dated June 8, 2015 submitted by Davey Tree Management (available on the city website at [Creve Coeur Tree Management Report <http://www.creve-coeur.org/DocumentCenter/View/5247>](http://www.creve-coeur.org/DocumentCenter/View/5247))

She provided an overview to the committee:

- Importance of following Tree City USA guidelines and importance of being on the Tree City USA email notification list (page 4), including:
 - Having a local tree authority (HEB serves this purpose)
 - Local tree ordinance designating local tree authority and ordinances identifying best practices (HEB serves this purpose)
 - \$2 per capita minimum spending
 - Arbor Day Celebration, tree planting and proclamation (HEB serves this purpose)
- City should increase diversity (more choices) on our Street Tree list
- Fran was unsure if it covers the trees in the Parks, but it does address Rights of Way, Administration building, designated areas, City Tree Canopy
- 6,376 trees were inventoried
 - Trees it addresses does not include addressing Emerald Ash Borer - EAB
 - Removing 286 trees with risk factors

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- Planting 100 trees each year in a five year cycle
- Structurally prune 463 young trees each year in a five year cycle
- Pruning 900 trees each year in a five year cycle and immediately pruning 209 high risk trees
- Cost for above (page 32) is \$756,545
 - 1st year - \$179,000 because of necessity of removals soon
 - 2nd year - \$163,545
 - 3rd year - \$138,000
 - 4th year - \$138,000
 - 5th year - \$138,000
- EAB
 - *“As the infestation of EAB nears Creve Coeur it becomes the City’s highest priority and it is advisable to refocus budgeted funds and personnel to concentrate more closely on the ash tree population.”* (Page 37)
 - City needs to help residents establish “readiness” plan.
 - Idea to notify public such as having door hangers printed and distributed.
 - Suggested a combination of removal and treating.
 - Cost of 2-year program for ash trees in inventory is \$238,049, does not include cost of public education (Page 42).
 - Amend *“tree ordinance so that EAB is acknowledged as a public nuisance and treated in a similar fashion as Dutch Elm disease and other insect pests or plant diseases.”* (Page 43)

Committee discussed forming a subcommittee to work on EAB article for the residential newsletter to begin educating the public about the impending infestation. EAB article subcommittee: Tracy Grass, Sue Baseley, Nancy Meyer and Fran Cantor.

Action Items:

- Sharon Stott will check to see if Doug Seely and Jim Heines are on the Tree City USA email distribution list.
- Sharon Stott will contact the University of Missouri Extension to find out if we can reprint existing information available through them.
- EAB subcommittee to draft an article for an upcoming newsletter.

B. Business from Members

1. Meeting Times
 - Committee discussed changing the meeting time to an earlier time.
 - Sue Baseley moved to change the meetings dates to the 2nd Tuesday every month at 4:30 p.m. James Graham seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Educational Garden Tour
 - Fran Cantor suggested the committee considering hosting a garden tour whereby residents can learn from various residents and see examples of raingardens, native plantings, honeysuckle replacement and condo gardening.
 - Committee will add to parking lot for future discussions.
3. Raingarden Poster
 - A Missouri Grow Native poster was on display showing a good example of how to create a raingarden.



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4. Audubon International Certification for Golf Course
 - Committee discussed taking this off the parking lot.
 - Fran Cantor provided some of the background as to why it is on the list.
 - Committee decided to meet with the Golf Course Superintendent to see what “green” activities are being done and to tour the golf course.
 - **Action Item:** Sharon Stott to contact Cory Gettemeier and see if he is available to meet in August at the next meeting.
5. Wall Garden
 - Discussion postponed to next meeting. Sue Baseley said Sabine McDowell, a former Climate Action Task Force member, has some good ideas to share about a variety of topics such as wall gardening.

C. Business from the Staff Liaison

- Sharon Stott shared the draft of the Arbor Day flyer redesigned by Bess McCoy, Public Information Officer & Management Analyst.
- Committee discussed and decided to have Tracy Grass visit a local school art teacher to see if he/she has any ideas on the design.
- **Action Item:** Sharon Stott to send Tracy Grass a pdf of the flyer.

D. Outgoing Chair Report

Fran Cantor - Outgoing Chair Remarks

Successes:

- We clarified our mission and the goals of committee and changed name from REB to HEB.
- Our Annual Arbor Day because everyone works so hard.
- The Tappmeyer Garden and Woods because of Claire and her volunteers
- The Trash contract because of Sue.
- The Biennial Beautification Contest because of Claire.
- We tweaked the weed ordinance to be more manageable.

Things that need improvement or doing:

- More committee involvement in overall horticulture planning.
- Our parks need more native plants.
- Our city needs to be more active in removing honeysuckle.
- We need to do more work on the Tree Ordinances to allow snags where appropriate.
- City needs to hire a horticulturist in order to have a professional involved in the above.
- We need to start the National Wildlife Federation Certification process.
- As a non-policy making committee all we can do is educate and advocate. From my point of view I think we should keep advocating for a horticulturist, and we should endeavor to help our elected officials understand that our land and what we plant on it are crucial to the infrastructure of our City. In my opinion, as noted by the projected cost in the Davey report, to bring our City tree health and canopy coverage up to standard, fauna should become part of the capital improvement program. It seems like we could change the name of the Capital Improvement Program budget to Major Infrastructure Improvement expenditures.

I feel so lucky to have been able to be chair with all of you on the committee. Each of you has

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made such important contributions and has taken the lead when I was not skilled enough to accomplish the task.

Thank you, Sue:

For your always smart and creative ideas and for the hard work and professional guidance you gave to the last trash contract. You hung in there until the City finally realized the wisdom of what you had been saying for 15 years.

Thank you, Claire:

For the uncountable hours you generously give and for your horticulture advise from hands-on experience. What you and your volunteers have accomplished at Tappmeyer is a benefit to all our residents and an example of what community involvement can accomplish.

Thank you, Rachel:

For bringing your wonderful teacher talents, understanding and hands on work to Arbor Day year after year. Every time I think one of these hands-on projects is impossible, you step up and everything runs smoothly.

Thank you, Jim:

For your thoughtful and thought-out comments. Your insights from your professional career with Monsanto have been so helpful and you are such a great team player.

Thank you, Tracy:

When we first agreed to take on Arbor Day, I was frankly scared of the task. You stepped in and organized the essay contest and judging in such smooth, fair and professional manner. I was blown away. Your skills as an educator have been such an asset to the committee.

Thank you, Nancy:

For your enthusiasm and proactive support. Your idea for the monthly blurbs and your leadership in starting the writing process have helped the committee get our mission out to the community.

Thank you, Margie:

For being a walking and emailing environmental reference library. You are always finding important information which I greatly appreciate receiving. And thank you for being one of Claire's original volunteers. You have so much experience and knowledge that have helped me. You are who I want to be in a few years.

Thank you, Lisa:

For staying with us as a non-voting member. Your fresh ideas and enthusiasm are rejuvenating. I am so glad you were out walking that day that we met.

Thank you, Dave:

For being present for us and for your advice that comes from experience. You tell us the truth kindly, even if it is not what we want to hear it. As you know, I am not happy that we are losing you. The next council liaison has a high bar to live up to with us.

Sharon:

Thank you, not only from me, but from all of us. You have a talent for not only being organized, but in addition, being sweet about it. Those two qualities don't always go together. When you were not able to be at Arbor Day, we were all so grateful for how you had us excellently and seamlessly organized. We have been so fortunate to have you as our staff liaison, and we are so thankful that

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you stayed with our committee when your city job changed.

E. Election of New Chair and Vice Chair

- Fran Cantor asked for nominations for the position of chair and vice chair for fiscal year 2016.
- James Graham moved to nominate Tracy Grass as chair and Sue Baseley as co-chair for fiscal year 2016. Nancy Meyer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.
- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 18 at 4:30 p.m., at the Dielmann Recreation Complex located at 11400 Olde Cabin Road.

A. Future Meeting Topics

- Audubon International Certification of Golf Course
- Community Garden
- Rain Gardens
- Historic Trees
- Plantings in City Parks and Property
- Community Composting
- Certified Nature Explorer Classroom
- Hire Horticulturalist
- Pursue Citywide Non-Smoking in Public Places
- Garden Tours

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**Horticulture, Ecology and Beautification Committee**

Meeting: 08/18/15 04:30 PM
Department: Horticulture, Ecology and Beautification Committee

Category: Report

Prepared By: Sharon Stott

Department Head: Sharon Stott

SCHEDULED

STAFF REPORT

EAB Subcommittee Meeting Summary

EAB Subcommittee Meeting Summary from August 9, 2015.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: Sunday, Aug. 9, 2015

Meeting Location: Creve Coeur Government Center Meeting Rm 1

People Attending: Sue Baseley, Tracy Grass, Nancy Meyer (Fran Cantor was out of town)

Overall Goal: The goal of this subcommittee is to gather short readable information about EAB with sources which we can recommend to the HEB Committee to be distributed to the Creve Coeur community.

Goal of this Meeting: Brainstorm what information the residents of Creve Coeur need to know about EAB; and brainstorm ways this information could be distributed.

What Types of Information Does the Public Need to be Aware of?

1. State Problem/Define Problem

- Why should residents be cognizant.
- Citizens need to be aware of financial and aesthetic impact of situations such as EAB which impact our immediate environment.
- EAB will impact (A) Commercial Property; (B) Residential Property; (C) City Property (Parks and street trees); and (D) Community Property (Subdivision Common Ground).

2. Identify Ash Trees - How to identify an Ash Tree?

3. Information about the infestation of EAB

- How is EAB spread?
- How is an infested tree identified?

4. Mitigating Options - Options which can be taken by citizens, government, etc.

<u>Option</u>	<u>Benefit</u>	<u>Consequence</u>
• Take no action now • Remove all ash trees • Replace removed trees • Treat Ash Trees		
(cost/effectiveness)		

How Can This Information Be Distributed to Residents?

1. Put links to reputable sources (such as U S Department of Agriculture and MO Department of Conservation) in the Creve Coeur Newsletter.
2. Talk to the mayor about including information/statement about EAB in his article the same month that we put links in the newsletter.
3. Put links (above) on the Creve Coeur Website.
4. EAB Booth at Arbor Day - possibly have a person from the Dept. of Conservation.
5. Distribute a refrigerator magnet with information about EAB information. We may be able to get a grant for education or perhaps some funding from the city.
6. Poster and possibly brochures in Government Center Lobby.

Actions Before the Next Subcommittee Meeting:

1. Tracy type subcommittee meeting notes and send to Sharon.
2. Present notes to HEB committee for initial feedback.
3. Talk to Doug Seeley about City plan to address EAB with City Trees and Street trees.
4. Subcommittee members research information on EAB from reliable sources.
5. Tracy contact MO Dept. of Conservation to ask about brochures on this topic.