

The monthly meeting of the Town of Highland Tree Board will be held at 7:00 PM, Thursday, October 20, 2022 at Town Hall and as a Zoom Meeting.

Richard Underkofler  
Secretary

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### Highland Tree Board Agenda for Regular Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2022 – 7 PM

#### Roll Call:

**Board Members:** Welcome Blane Roberts [mailto:broberts1120@gmail.com], who has been appointed to succeed Bernie Zemen for a term that expires January 2024. Its presumed Bernie will remain Board Liaison. James Colias, Elizabeth Herrejon, Ron Jackowski, Joan Roback, Laura Steyer, Richard Underkofler, Bernie Zemen.

**Invited Town Staff:** Mark Herak, Clerk/Treasurer; Mark Knesek, Public Works Director; Tim Gembala, Public Works Operations Director; Alex Brown, Superintendent, Parks & Recreation Department; Trever Kinley, Parks Director.

**Others:** webupdates@theideafactory.us.com c/o Theresa Badovich; Ed Dabrowski, Zoom Meeting Host; Lance Ryskamp, Highland Community Foundation; Heather Oaks, Teacher/Sponsor Highland High School Sustainability Club; T. Hillemonds, Teacher/Sponsor Highland Middle School Science Club; Drew Hart, USDA, Forest Service; Samuel Vergara, The Student Conservation Association; Jennifer Birchfield, NIRPC; Rebecca Koetz, Lake County Extension Agent.

**Minutes:** Request for a motion to approve minutes of the last meeting held September 15, 2022.

**Old Business:**

- a. Student Conservation Association (SCA) Plantings: Funding for SCA plantings is provided from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Chi-Cal Rivers Fund; its grant funding has been approved again for 2022. We've been asked to suggest Fall 2022 SCA planting locations. *Jim Colias sought suggestions on the Board's Facebook site.*
- b. CommuniTree Spring 2022 Plantings: Funding for the CommuniTree Grant Program is made possible through a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant awarded to the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission by the USDA Forest Service. The Street Department collected 19 trees September 29 for planting this Fall: Redbud (7); Red Twig Dogwood (5); Serviceberry (6); American Linden (1). All but the Linden are low growing species. *The Fall 2022 planting location inventory may be completed by the time of this meeting.*
- c. Transplanting Trees: Report from Ron Jackowski on seeking utility locates and coordinating a date with Colias, Underkofler and Zemen for transplanting his backyard nursery trees for replacing dead trees in parkways, street medians, Merkley School & White Oak Park; and those requested by Elizabeth Herrejon, Zemen & Highland Christian School.
- d. Fall Tree Health Seminar: Report from Jim Colias on a 6:30 PM Wednesday, October 19th session at Highland Library for a presentation by Arborist Sharon Anderson about how to help trees survive drought conditions. *Register online at [www.lcclin.org/events](http://www.lcclin.org/events) or call the library at (219) 838-2394.*
- e. Tree class for Elementary Students: Report from Jim Colias about classes at Our Lady of Grace and Highland Christian School led by Rebecca Koetz, Purdue Lake County Extension Educator.

**New Business:** Inquiry whether James Colias, Elizabeth Herrejon and Ron Jackowski intend to apply for another board term when their current terms expire on the first Monday in January 2023.

**Discussion Topics:** Comments from Board Members, the Public and/or Visitors: This item of business is confined to announcements of intention to bring a future action, or requests for the preparation of administrative work product for future consideration. In no instance may a matter for final action be taken up under this item of business.

**Next Meeting:** November 17, 2022.

**Adjournment**