

MINNEAPOLIS TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2025

Held in person and remotely via Zoom

Decision/Consensus/Assignment items are set out in bold.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ARE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED TO REVIEW THESE MINUTES CAREFULLY FOR ASSIGNMENT AND ACTION ITEMS PERTAINING TO THEM

The meeting of the Minneapolis Tree Advisory Commission (MTAC) of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) convened at 5:30 p.m. on March 20, 2025, at the MPRB Headquarters, with the following Commission Members in attendance: Co-Chair Giuseppe Marrari (District 2), Drew Peterson (District 1), Karl Kussow (District 3), Mary Bolla (District 4), Co-Chair Tim Keane (District 5), Barb Schlaefer (District 6), Erika Commers (At Large), Don Willeke (Mayor's Representative), Meg Forney (MPRB Commissioner), Peter MacDonagh (U of M Liaison), Craig Pimkalla, Jeremy Barrick, Sydney Schaaf (Mpls Health Department City Trees Program Manager).

Guests in attendance: Danielle Schurmer (MPRB) Philip Potyondy (Sustainability Coordinator), Erick Lopez, Erick Tree Care, Carol Sersland, Mitchel Hansen (Harrison neighborhood), Shakin Khalili, Health Department Forester, Jeremy Barrick (MPRB).

CALL TO ORDER AND MINUTES

Co-Chair Marrari called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

INTRODUCTION AND APPOINTMENTS

Co-Chair Marrari went around the meeting with introductions of all in attendance. Marrari solicited volunteers.

Co-Chair to serve as secretary. Keane reported preparation of February meeting minutes with Co-Chair Marrari.

Introduction of now forestry director Chris McMasters, most recently with Dallas Park & Rec.

MPRB FORESTRY UPDATE

Chris McMaster provided an update on the upcoming events introducing Danielle Schurmer.

- MLK Park – Demo tapping – March 22
- Tree lot tour - Craig Pinkalla - April 17
- Boom Island – Bee Run & Cleanup – April 19
- Arbor Day Celebration – Kenny Park – April 25
- Watering Party – Elliot Park, Steel Park, Curry Park – May 1
- Crews pruning season
- Shade Tree Short Course well attended
- Carbon offset program

City Trees Update: Shakin Khalili

- Tree ordinance development – waiting on consultant; draft later in year
- Tree sale on track – lottery held
- Working with school district
- Working with Little Earth

TREE LOT TOUR INFORMATION – April 17

2025-26 MTAC GOAL DISCUSSION

- Vacant tree care professional
- Forney – like to see more fruit trees, especially at schools
- Working with Health Department
- Marrari to pare down goals

ADJOURNMENT

The MTAC Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Chair Marriari concluded meeting to adjourn at the tree lot tour April 17, 2025.

Respectfully submitted: Tim Keane and Giuseppe Marrari – MTAC Co-Chairs