

TREE BOARD – City of Columbia City
(Date, Time)

MINUTES

- Roll Call (Present) Janice Daniel, Jeff Bleijerveld, Jessica Burkett, Brent Bockelman, Larry Walter, Chip Hill
- President Janice Daniel called the meeting to order and asked from a motion to approve the October 2023 minutes. Larry made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Jessica. A vote was taken; all voted “aye”.

OLD BUSINESS

- Recap of trees planted in “Hanna Extended”
 - Ace sold the trees at 40% off regular price.
 - A total of 22 trees were planted.
- Financial Update
 - We have \$24,000 available for this year, which can be carried over into 2024.
- Tree Steward Training
 - May 16, 17 2024 in Huntertown
- Tree Board Members
 - Discussed possible names to be presented to the mayor and city council for appointment and for our board.
 - Board members asked to continue looking for possible candidates.

NEW BUSINESS

- Passing of Gloria Banker
 - It is with profound sadness that we bid farewell to a dedicated board member and dear friend. Gloria was passionate in serving her community and as a member of the Columbia City Tree Board.
 - A tree was planted in owner of Gloria in Kenneth Wright Park.
 - A plaque will be placed in her honor.
- Tree Keeper Additions
 - Still working at getting everyone’s log in information.
- Pruning and Removal Requirements

- We have a copy of our requirements and Chip will have them re-typed.
- Proposal for Tree Planting with the Columbia City Redevelopment Commission
 - Area located along the Blue River north of Radio Road and south of the railway line.
 - Chip will follow up and send us an email with any new developments.
 - Various possible plantings were discussed including Sycamore, Black Walnut and White Pine.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17pm.

Submitted by Jeff Bleijerveld, Secretary