

URBAN FORESTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

Present: Mike Ahern, Dan Kenny, Joyce Reier, Jennifer Gray (for Kevin Thompson), and Drew Todd

The meeting began at 10:05 AM with the introduction of ONLA's Associate Executive Director Jennifer Gray sitting in for the vacationing Kevin Thompson. Drew Todd briefly shared information about the Division's re-certification efforts, the western callout of two inter-agency fire crews, and the approval of three Great Lakes Restoration Initiative proposals.

Dan Kenny provided an update on ODA's ALB efforts in Bethel, Ohio. Using a combination of federal and state dollars, ODA is "ramping up" survey contracts.

Drew discussed in length ODNR's replanting program for ALB-affected property owners. A fall 2012 and spring 2013 replanting program is anticipated.

Operation Shade, an effort to increase tree canopy cover at the Ohio Exposition Center was also discussed in detail. It's hoped that tree installation with the use of Silva cells will be completed by the end of this year and/or the beginning of 2013. Mike Ahern suggested that ODOT's public/private partnership experience might be a good model for sponsorships involving some of the Operation Shade activities. Mike also mentioned that the use of Silva cells may address the stormwater requirements the Expo Center needs to meet.

Under Forest Health, Drew discussed the ongoing Thousand Canker Disease

survey, ground-truthing of the aerial flights, and the upcoming Hemlock Woolly Adelgid survey season.

Drew asked for and received ideas on how to allocate an anticipated \$100,000 payment from a Scotts Miracle-Gro consent order. (Treating hemlocks, benefits of tree planting campaign, planting in migrating bird flyways, and tree planting on razed properties).

[Editor's Note: Drew contacted Matt Lampkey, the state's Moving Ohio Forward administrator, about the possibility of working with his organization and local land banks and communities to plant trees on razed abandoned/blighted properties. Scotts was also contacted to see if they wanted to participate in this effort by providing bird habitat vegetation.]

Under Open Comments, Dan Kenny mentioned ODA's Thousand Canker Disease quarantine as well as the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid quarantine for Meigs and Washington counties.

Jennifer Gray stated that with a USDA grant, ONLA's Nursery Stock Survey will be on line by October 1, 2012. Go to <http://nurserystockselect.com/>.

Mike Ahern shared that he has been on two special projects as of late involving GIS consolidation and voice-over IP, so he hasn't spent much time in OEPA's Division of Air Pollution.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned slightly before noon. The next meeting was scheduled for the Ohio Division of Forestry conference room on **Friday, December 14, 2012.**

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Todd