

**Minutes**  
**Northern Kentucky Urban & Community Forestry Council**  
**July 21, 2004**

John Volz called the meeting to order.

Present were John Volz, Kris Stone, Mark Leopold, Barry Schwartz, DJ Scully, Don Girton, Jenny Gulick, Gary Johnson, and Sherry Carran.

John asked if there were any corrections to the June minutes. Don Girton made a motion to accept the minutes, Jenny second the motion and the motion was approved.

Mark went over the Financial Report as of 7/21/04. Last reported balance on 6/16/04 was \$2,322.65. Ending balance on 7/21/04 is \$2,259.95. Don Girton made a motion to accept the financial report, DJ second the motion and the motion was approved.

**Old Business**

...Jenny gave an update on the Kenton County Forest Assessment, Davey Resource Group is currently processing the data, making maps, and working on the statistics & summary. The finished product may be completed before October. Don Girton reported that Davey has been paid the first payment of \$20,000 on this project.

...Regarding the study on the Boone County Forest Canopy, Jenny passed out drafts of handouts that would be used with her presentations of the report. The drafts were three pages. The first page is a summary of the analysis, the second page is recommendations, and the third page is an outline, high-lighting the key issues with rationale and recommendations for each. Jenny asked that the Council review these drafts and to make suggestions for improving. Jenny thought she would be presenting the report to Boone County Planning Commission on August 16<sup>th</sup> and to the Boone County Conservation District on September 20<sup>th</sup>. DJ thought it would be good to invite the other Conservation Districts and the Boone County historical group to the September 20<sup>th</sup> presentation. Kris thought this was a good idea and suggested adding all three conservancies and the Boone County Urban Forestry Commission. Don Girton suggested inviting Bill Miller and Doug Smith from OKI to this presentation also.

Kris and DJ gave an update on the Certified Arborist Program. October 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> have been set as training days. The training will go from 8 am to 5 pm both days and will be held at the Florence Government Center. Bill Fountain, with help from David Draper, Jenny, and Kris, will be conducting the teaching sessions. Tom Wilson, Thom Davis, and Robert Rollins were also mentioned as possible instructors. There was some discussion about publicity and charging a fee, \$20 prior and \$25 the day of, for the training. Jenny thought this was very reasonable and thought this could also include lunch. DJ asked Mark if he could handle registration. Jenny wanted to have an outline of the training so she could plan the sessions. DJ thought Bill Fountain could provide this.

...Barry reported that the Council received an extension on its 2004 Grant from Ky. Div. of Forestry. He also reported that the Council has been awarded funding, in the amount of \$73,000, from the 2005 Ky. Urban & Community Forestry Grant Program.

...Barry also reported on a proposal that was submitted to U.S.EPA, Assessment and Watershed Protection Program Grants. This project was going to be in partnership with the Banklick Watershed Council. The proposal was turned down because of funding limitations but encouragement was given to reapply as it was considered a beneficial project. The Council is listed as a partner on another grant to the same program but nothing has been heard on this project.

...Barry will be submitting the paperwork to the Greater Cincinnati Foundation to receive their \$35,000 funding for the Kenton County Canopy Study.

...Barry asked for a committee to help with the Southern Region Grant that is due October 1<sup>st</sup>. DJ, Don Girton and Sherry volunteered. John said he, and maybe Don Smyers, could help if needed.

Sherry reported on the dinner presentation to the Northern Kentucky Home Builders Association (NKHBA). The date, Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup> has been confirmed with the presenter, Robin Green, and with Mike Enzweiler, NKHBA. This event is for NKHBA and their Land Development Council. As the date gets closer, details will be finalized.

Mark reported that he has not heard anything from the IRS so he thinks the correction to the Council's last year reporting is okay.

### **New Business**

Barry passed out a draft of a Strategic Plan Update for the Council. Barry noted that the Council has done a good job on working towards the original Strategic Plan. Marketing and fund raising were the only two areas that had not been addressed directly. The draft that Barry passed out begins with the vision & mission, and then goes into the work areas, objectives and priorities of the Council. Barry used the State Strategic Plan to help organize this update. Barry asked for review and feedback on the draft. He hopes the update will be voted on for approval at the next meeting.

Mark made an announcement that the Center for Applied Ecology (CAE) will no longer be able to provide administration as a community service to the Forestry Council. Because of budget problems at NKU, CAE has to discontinue all community service contracts. There is a clause in the contracts that allow for this. Mark hopes that he will be able to continue as a member of the Council and will do what he can as a member. He did say that CAE could do work but it would have to be on a regular contract, not at the discounted price as before. As the Council inquires about services it may find that CAE is still the organization for certain projects, like the web site.

DJ reported that the newsletter is a go for August. He has the needed articles for that issue but will be needing articles for October. Some planning will most likely take place for next year's newsletter because assistance with articles is needed.

DJ mentioned the Fall Awards Dinner. It was decided at the executive meeting held earlier that there are enough monies to have the event. DJ would like to have a committee to help organize it. John, Kris, Jenny, Sherry and DJ volunteered. A date was discussed and Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup> was picked.

John asked if there was any other new business or announcements.

Barry asked for in-kind sheets.

Jenny announced that the Southwestern Ohio Chapter of ISA will be having a presentation September 24<sup>th</sup> at Sharon Woods that will cover trees and utilities.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherry Carran