

**Dean Fund Committee Meeting**  
**May 19, 2009**  
**Wheeler Center**  
**4251 Stone School Rd., Ann Arbor**  
**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** John Bassett, Chuck Cares, Merrill Dudley, Al Gallup, Don Gray, John Remsberg

**Members Absent:** Warren Attarian

**Staff Present:** Kerry Gray, Kay Sicheneder

**Guest:** Maura Thomson, Main Street Area Association

**Al Gallup** called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. and welcomed guest.

**Previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the April 21, 2009 meeting were reviewed. **John Bassett motioned** to approve the January 20 meeting minutes. **Don Gray seconded.** Committee unanimously approved.

**Dean Promenade**

**Ms. Maura Thomson** joined the Committee to provide an update on her discussions with Heritage Tree Care to provide deep root watering of the 42 tree planters within the Dean Promenade. Heritage proposed to inject 25 gallons of water into the upper root zone- 12 inches deep. The cost of watering would be \$450/watering, or for watering twice a month \$900/month. The watering would occur in June, July, August and September.

**Kay Sicheneder** asked if a provision could be added to the contract for if it is a particularly wet week and the trees do not need watering that the watering could be skipped. **Ms. Thomson** indicated that she believes this provision could be added.

**Ms. Thomson** came to the April meeting looking for assistance in funding the annual watering of the plants in the Dean Fund Promenade planters. The Main Street Area Associations annual cost for watering is \$5000.

**Chuck Cares motioned** to spend \$8600 to water trees in the Dean Promenade.

**Merrill Dudley** asked if there was an opportunity to cost-share the watering with the City. **Ms. Sicheneder** answered that she would have to see if there was room in her budget to add this activity.

**Mr. Gallup** stated that the Dean Fund cannot pay to water flowers. **Mr. Gallup amended Mr. Cares motion** to fund the deep watering of the trees in the planters within the Dean Promenade up to \$4500. **Ms. Dudley seconded.** Committee unanimously approved.

**Ms. Sicheneder** will work with **Ms. Thompson** on the deep root tree watering.

### **Spring Tree Planting**

**Ms. Sicheneder** updated the Committee on the spring tree planting and provided a handout with the locations and species planted. It was a very productive planting season. The cost to plant the trees out of the FY09 budget was less than anticipated so the Dean Fund dollars went towards planting additional trees and for post planting care.

Last week the Forestry crews completed the special planting project that the Dean Fund approved at the December 4 meeting. The budget was \$32,000 and was appropriated from the previous years' fund balance. Trees were planted along Eisenhower Parkway, Plymouth Road and Packard. A variety of species were planted at these sites including, Burr Oak, Hardy Rubber Tree, Amur Corktree, River Birch, Korean Mountain Ash, Trident Maple and Serviceberry, all of the trees have tree gator bags for watering. **Ms. Sicheneder** explained that this season they used a lot more bare root trees, so the Dean Fund money went farther. City staff was very efficient with planting and she anticipated that they will be under the \$32,000 that was approved by the Committee for the project. **John Bassett motioned** to allocate the unspent portion of the \$32,000 to post planting care of the trees. **Mr. Gray seconded.** Committee unanimously approved.

### **Other Items**

#### **Urban Forestry Management Plan**

**Kerry Gray** explained to the Committee that the City has just completed the street tree inventory and is beginning the process of developing the urban forestry management plan. The management plan will guide the future direction of the City's urban forestry program. The planning will involve a Committee of interested stakeholders; **Ms. Gray** would like a representative from the Dean Fund Committee to sit on the management plan committee. **Mr. Cares** was nominated by **Mr. Gallup** with approval of other Committee members and accepted the appointment.

#### **Next Meeting Agenda Items**

- Discussion of setting up a fund where people can donate money towards work the Dean Fund does- possibly through the Community Foundation.
- Setting a policy for reinvesting into the corpus.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 23 at 8:00 a.m. at the Wheeler Center, Conference Room B.**