

Minutes

Village of Kirkland Tree Advisory Commission

06-09-2026

I. Call to Order - at 7:01 PM

II. Roll Call - Present were Brian Benes, Jeff Miller, Dawn Darling, Melinda Quigley; absent were Jim Stark, Michelle Chambers and Matt Felix.

III. Old Business

A. The minutes of 05-12-2026 were read and approved.

B. "Trees for Our Future" Sapling Distribution - All 475 saplings were distributed. Mr. Joshua Dodge said the distribution went "really, really well." The bulk of the distribution was to residents. A couple of Kirkland farms took about fifty and 25 were held back for an upcoming FFA project.

C. New Nursery Suggestions - Jeff reported on his discussions with Carter Nelson, the owner of CR Nelson nursery. Mr. Nelson was very friendly and supportive. He said his nursery has supplied trees to the City of DeKalb for its 50/50 parkway tree planting program. Mr Carter will review our Recommended Tree List and let us know which parkway trees on our list are in his inventory, the prices, and where he doesn't have a certain tree, some suggestions for alternate trees. Mr Carter said his nursery could deliver and could also plant the trees. The nursery's policy is "no warranty" and "no returns refunded" (posted on its website; Melinda said that was standard for nurseries). CR Nelson has its main location off Hwy. 176 between Crystal Lake and Island Lake, at 4418 Buhl Rd., Crystal Lake, IL. They have a tree farm in Kingston. They have been in business for sixty years.

IV. New Business

A. Budget Decrease - The Public Works Forestry budget is proposed to be decreased from \$10K to \$6.9K. We do not know how much of this will be available for 50/50 tree plantings in the fall. Jim might know. Plan A would be to at least do the 50-50 plantings for the five trees that were ordered last fall and then more if possible. Plan B would be to use whatever money we have for trees for a few public space trees (like the entrance to Kennedy homes). We should monitor the Facebook page of St Aubin. Mindy reported that they announced Japanese Lilacs were being sold for \$85 (instead of the \$250 we paid in the past). Jim should just buy any trees on our lists that are offered at these bargain prices, if possible.

V. Next Meeting - Tuesday, August 11 at 7 PM

VI. Adjournment - at 7:22 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeff Miller