



**Executive Council Meeting**  
**Conservation Headquarters, Jefferson City MO**  
**October 12, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

**Welcome & Introductions** – Austin Lampe welcomed everyone to the meeting, and the following were in attendance: Gene Brunk, Jon Skinner, Martha Clark, Ron Lumb, Dean Alberty, Dave Dittmer, Jason Pratte, Brett O'Brien, Sarah Crowder, Wendy Sangster, Kyle Monroe, Tom Ebeling, Liana Kopp, Mark McCarthy, Stacy Armstrong, and Sarah Crocker.

**Minutes Read and Approved** – Austin asked if anyone had changes to the minutes from the August 2017 meeting. Gene Brunk made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ron Lumb seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer Report** – Brett's submitted the following Treasurer Report:

- Regular share (savings)-\$10,938.39
- 02 Northwest-\$0.01
- 03 Northeast -\$0.01
- 04 Central-\$3,253.02
- 05 St. Louis Christmas club \$1,524.79
- 07 Southwest- \$276.84
- 77 East Central \$ 2,170.08
- 76 Square CC- \$65.21
- 75 Regular checking-\$63,414.78

**Current total in all accounts - \$81,643.13**

- Total from all accounts in August 2017 = \$81,956.16
- Transferred \$101.21 from SW account to checking to cover Saluting Branches event.
- Biennial registration report was not due; on closer examination Brett realized it will be due in August of 2018.

**Old Business**

**Update: City Scope**

Brett O'Brien is hoping to get a Saluting Branches story from both SW and STL regions using pictures from the event and a description of the work completed. Brett asked to have information by end of the month. Martha suggested an article from the event in NW region involving Forest ReLeaf and Rotary Club. Ann Koenig will also submit photos of the fun climb at the Roots and Blues Festival held in Columbia. Brett will also ask Jacob McMains about a Conference Update.

**Update: 2018 Conference – Central Region**

The committee is having a planning meeting tomorrow. Everything is on track and going good. Basically, had a list of top 40 ideas for speakers and filled about 90% of the program out of that.

**Arbor Day Poster Contest**

Sarah Crocker that the contest went live mid to late September with the email reaching over 6,000 email addresses. Martha Clark mentioned that Casey Jo Kellner brought to her attention that the latest version wasn't uploaded onto the website. Martha updated and uploaded the correct version. Sarah stated she has already received one poster in the mail from a 5<sup>th</sup> grader.

### **2018 Arbor Day Poster Calendars – Austin Lampe**

Austin passed around the 2018 calendar for everyone to look at. He brought in the boxes and asked that each region take some calendars back and distribute them.

### **ASTI Grant – Jon Skinner**

Jon stated that ASTI declined one of the grants and reduced the grant amount on the other one. Right now, they are looking at one grant in Joplin for Chainsaw Safety.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Each region needs to send their Regional suggestion letter so Scott can send a final copy to Lisa. The deadline is October 30<sup>th</sup>. Please give them to Scott by the October 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Billboard Signs**

Scott had an idea to place two billboards one along I-70 and one along I-44. The cost would run about \$12,000 for six months. There was discussion on the floor regarding the dollars spent. Suggestion was brought to the floor to do one billboard as a test. Maybe not the mulch sign, but make a simple sign to bring awareness to MCFC. Dean Alberty mentioned having the topic submitted to the Outreach Committee. The committee will look into options and suggestions to place on the billboards. The committee will present in December on suggestions they discover. Communications and Education/Outreach Committees will work together and bring back a report in December meeting.

### **Adventure Tree Program – Austin Lampe**

A gentleman with this company has done a tree competition at the Roots and Blues festival in Columbia. The event allows kids and adults of all ages to climb trees and learn about trees and climbing. The company will go to different schools and present on different programs where kids will get to learn about trees, climbing, etc. They call it Science in a Tree. The kids will get to spend half a day in the classroom and then the remainder of the day climbing trees. To do a whole grade level (about 150 students) it will take three full days. One day will be for 50 students at \$1,000.00 for that day. Ron Lumb made a motion to use this program at the school of the poster contest winners for 2018 and see how the program goes over. Tom Ebeling second the motion; motion carried.

## **Program Reports**

### **Communications Committee –**

The committee reported that on Tuesday of this week Forest ReLeaf came to St Joe thanks to Martha and the Rotary Club and had their first successful tree planting of 75 trees. Tom discussed application and the program with those in attendance. Tom thanked the NW region.

The second stop of the tree tour is today at 2:00 p.m. with JC Housing Authority. They will be planting 39 trees.

## **Articles of Incorporation – No Report**

## **Strategic Plan – No Report**

## **Membership Committee – No Report**

## **Poster Contest & Education/Outreach Committee**

- Update previously given

## **Legislation Committee – No Report**

## **Liaison Reports**

### **Utility Arborist Association – Scott Skopec**

- No Report

## **Forest ReLeaf**

### **Plant MOre Trees:**

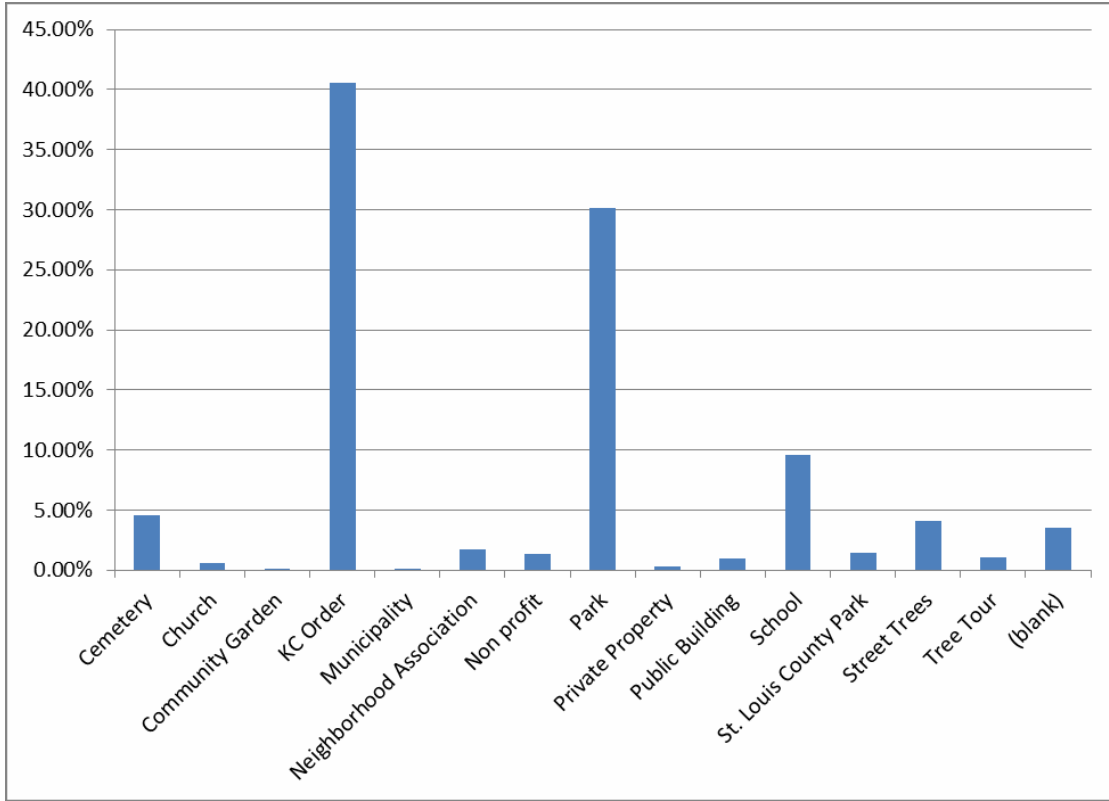
Tom Ebeling has been coordinating “tree tours” with the first stop in St. Joseph this week; thank you to Martha Clark for coordinating details on the Rotary Club planting event. Another project is happening today, 10/12, in Jefferson City with help from Ann Koenig. In addition to getting trees planted and raising awareness about the importance of healthy community forests, we are also providing hands-on instruction for how to use the Plant MOre Trees app to plot each tree. Please contact Tom if you need more information about the tool. We encourage everyone to plot their trees and help MCFC reach its 20/20 Vision goal to plant 1 million more trees by the end of 2020!

### **Project CommuniTree:**

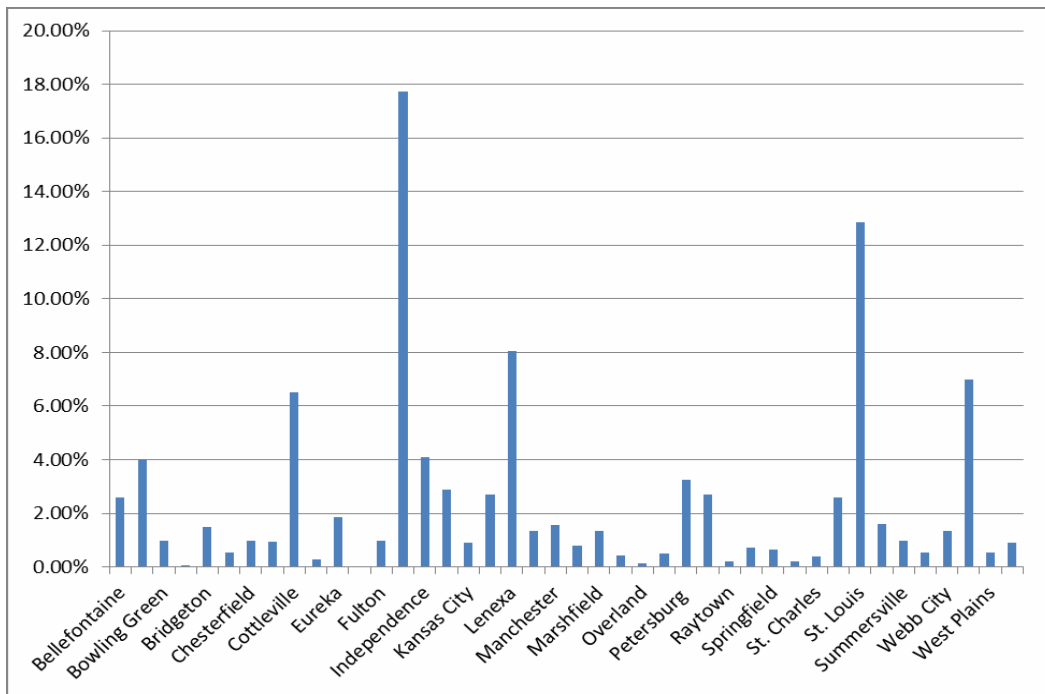
We still have thousands of free 3-gallon trees and shrubs available for pickup at the nursery. However, orders are still coming in slowly but surely. We've allocated 5,600 so far of the available 13,000. We will deliver 1,500+ trees and shrubs to the KC region for 6+ projects.

To date 865 of the 5,600 trees have been picked up from the nursery under the Project CommuniTree Program. Of the total number of trees ordered just under 30% are being planted in parks which should be interpreted as our most frequent planting type (Figure1). Although the KC order is above 40%, the planting type has not been identified at this time; those quantities will eventually be distributed across the data set. Approximately 13% of trees were distributed within the City of St. Louis (Figure 2). Once the fall season is over, we will have a better understanding of our distribution metrics.

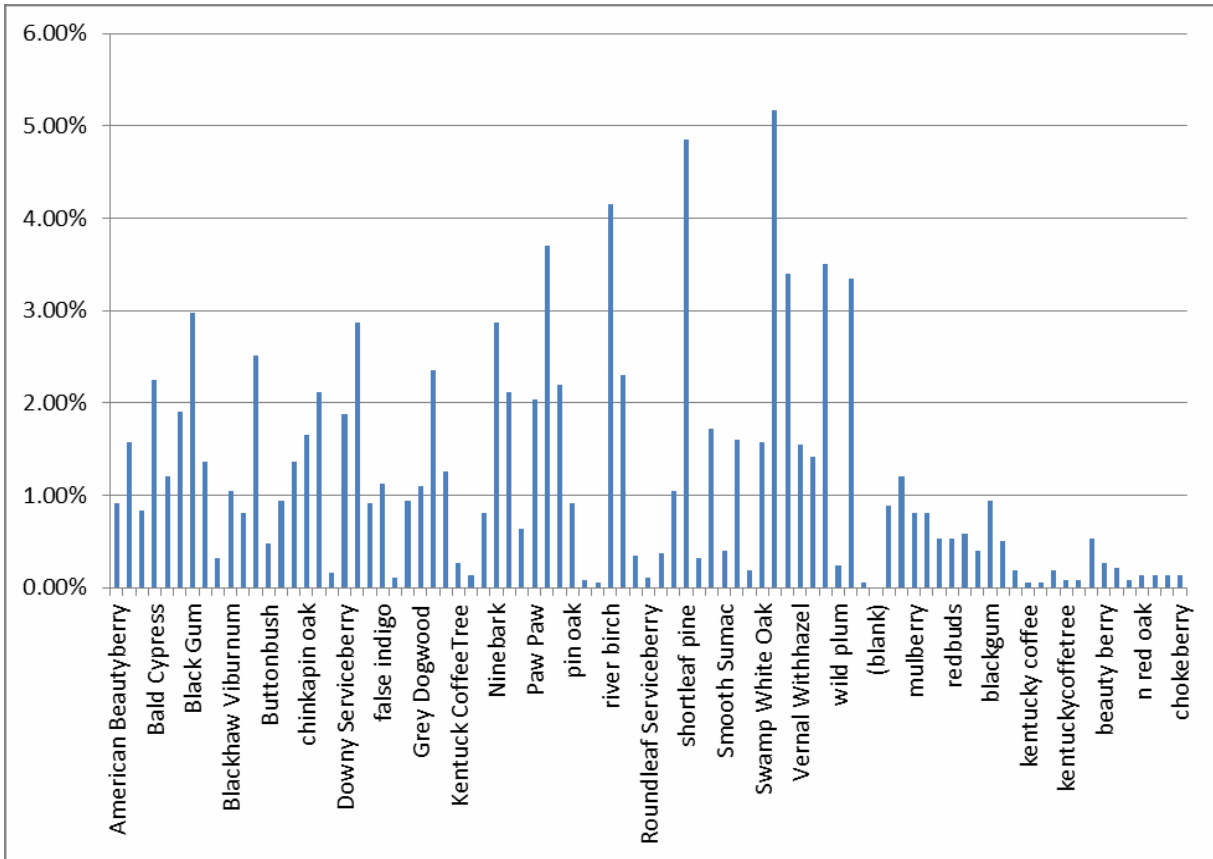
## **Figure 1: Distribution of Planting Type**



**Figure 2: Distribution percentage by city (KC planting +1500 is not represented as species have not yet been selected)**



**Figure 3: Percent Distribution of Species**



### **Priority ReLeaf**

We have identified four neighborhoods in Ward 5 in the City of St. Louis to again plant trees to replace ash trees being removed due to EAB. Two temporary, part time “neighborhood releaf coordinators” have again been hired to help organize the planting events, which will be essentially block parties to get the community involved with planting 500 trees in that Ward.

### **ReLeaf Sales:**

The ReLeaf Sales catalog has been mailed and trees are for sale online now as well. We are holding a “tree expo” event at the nursery this Saturday and will be open to the public for tours and to make trees available for those making a donation.

### **Other Updates**

Our Fourth Annual ArborMeisters Homebrew Festival was held on September 23rd at CommuniTree Gardens Nursery and raised nearly \$9,000 for Forest ReLeaf.

For the fourth year, Plant4Peace will be held this month to encourage groups to come together and plant trees in communities. This year groups that participate are asked to commit to planting at least 25 trees over the weekend of October 21-22. We received funding from Boeing’s Employee Charitable Fund to help offset our expenses associated with growing these trees and coordinating this outreach event.

Forest ReLeaf’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is scheduled for October 28, 2018 and is being held in partnership with Magnificent Missouri’s Annual Conservation Celebration. A Sunday afternoon party is planned for this occasion. The Young Friends group will host its annual “Ugly Holiday Sweater” Crawl the Grove on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Mo. Dept. of Transportation – Stacey Armstrong**

- No Report

**Mo. Forest Products Association – No Report**

**University/Extension – No Report**

**Missouri Parks & Recreation Association – Jan Neitzert/Gary Gates – No Report**

**Federated Garden Clubs – No Report**

**NRCS State Forester – Nate Goodrich – No Report**

**Society of Municipal Arborists – Brett O’Brien**

Brett reported that conference is coming up. He stated the internship worked out well. He recommends anyone interested to apply. The applications will open generally after Christmas on the website. Suggestion was made to send out the opportunity through Constant Contact.

**MDC – Russell Hinnah reported**

Russell reported that all TRIM grants have been awarded. There are 36 in total this year with \$392,704.39 on the table to spend. He also stated that MDC has entered into a USFS grant with the State of Wisconsin and looking at economic impacts of the Agriculture Industry. They were looking for help from other states. He was happy to report that last year TCUSA had seven new

cities get approved. Missouri was the 2<sup>nd</sup> most in the country. Lately he has been receiving phone calls of other communities interested. Looking at adding more new communities this year.

#### **MWISA – Brett O’Brien**

Brett reported that the Executive Director is retiring. They are trying to get things going again and get someone new on before Rick leaves in February. Brett is serving as the Award Liaison. The award nominations are due December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. He suggested members look at the Gold Leaf Awards. The more applications, the better. He suggested Arbor Day awards. If you’ve done a good event, complete a nomination and send in pictures.

#### **MOFRAC – Gene Brunk gave the following report.**

Gene reported the group met in September. A law was discussed that was formed in 1908 that was brought up by several school districts. Any revenue made on timber sales had to be given back to the counties by cost-share. Oregon County School District is the largest school district in the state with several lands being that of USFS land. Most of the revenues earned was from timber sales off of the USFS land. The school district wants MOFRAC to support and write a letter to Senator Blunt asking for reinstatement of the amendment to the law that expired to back their budgets. MoFRAC voted to support them.

#### **Region Reports & Volunteer Hours**

- **Kansas City** – Wendy Sangster reported the Urban Wood Utilization Workshop will be held on December 12<sup>th</sup> and is being organized through Bridging the Gap. Sarah Crowder reported that Heartland Tree Alliance received an extension for their tree planting project. They are also doing 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Heartland Tree Academy for Boy Scouts. The boy scouts will complete some activities to earn badges. Currently there are 140 boy scouts signed up between the two dates in the fall. Hoping for a couple thousand trees in ground by December.
- **Northwest** – Martha Clark reported a lot of rotary club stuff going on with planting projects. They are working with Dean Alberty on coordination a EAB Workshop and pruning event. Total of 42 volunteer hours were submitted.
- **Central** – Dave Dittmer reported that most of their time has been conference planning. They did have a fund time at Roots and Blues Festival. The group held a tour at a property on the business loop of 26 acres that is owned by a family that has lived there since the early 1900’s. Total of 100 volunteer hours were submitted.
- **Northeast** – Kyle Monroe reported the region held meeting one day planting a lot of trees. They have had two work days for pruning of those trees. They have scheduled two more work days with the hopes of having 100 trees pruned by end of year. Total of 47 volunteer hours were submitted.
- **East Central/St. Louis** – Jason Pratte reported the group will be voting for new officers soon. A representative from the group led a tree walk tour for the city of Wentzville on Oct 21. The region hosted two successful tap root speaker series events raising over \$500. The last one is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>. Each series session is bringing in about 40 people. After the Trees, Cities, and Infrastructure Workshop, there was a renewed commitment to

reach out to more diverse audiences. They have presented to Gateway Greening, Master Gardeners, and Green Building Alliance. The region is getting more exposure with this model. Jason said several of the members attended Forest ReLeaf's Arbormeisters event. The region assisted with Saluting Branches event at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. (volunteer hours were undocumented) Total of 21 volunteer hours were submitted.

- **Southwest** – The region was extremely active. Saluting Branches was in September with 43 individuals participating. They had an excellent turn out and press conference. It was phenomenal to watch. There was a total of 384 hours of work that day, 12 hours of prep work, 15 hours of meetings for Springfield; Joplin had an additional 15 hours themselves. You can pull up the coverage on KY3. On November 18<sup>th</sup> Joplin's MCFC group is having a pruning workshop for the public as well as pruning trees at the park. Total of 426 volunteer hours were submitted.

**Meeting will be held in February before Conference.**

**Adjournment** – with no further business, the meeting was adjourned.