



Regular Meeting of the Michigan City Tree Board
Wednesday August 5, 2026 at 5:30 pm Central Time.
IBEW Building, ALCO
Agenda

1) Call to Order

2) Roll Call

Member Name	Type	Term start	End	Role
Jennifer Birchfield	Mayor Appointment	8/19/2024	8/01/28	President
Mary Nell Murphy	Mayor Appointment	1/1/2024	12/31/27	Secretary
Denise Blau	Mayor Appointment	08/01/25	8/1/28	
Dennis Brittain	Mayor Appointment	7/1/2024	7/1/2027	
Betsy Elsaesser	Mayor Appointment	7/1/2024	07/01/27	Vice President
Harshini Ratnayaka	Mayor Appointment	7/1/24	07/01/27	
Wendy Willis	Council Appointment representing Eastport Neighborhood Association	02/15/26	02/16/27	
Nancy Moldenhauer	Council Liaison			

3) Approval of Agenda

4) Approval of Minutes for July meeting

5) Comments– Public (3 minute limit)

6) Secretary Treasurer’s Report and Claims

- a) Monthly Reports to be requested:
 - General Fund #1101 and Grant Fund #4500: Budget Performance Report
 - Donation Fund #2308: Statement of Cash Position
- b) Submit receipts for supplies along with minutes noting Tree Board approval by vote.

7) Communications

- a) Emails:

b) Facebook: Friends of Michigan City Tree Board (242 followers)

- 7/13 Arbor Foundation: NC Trees & Storms
- 7/13 Arbor Foundation: Indianapolis Region: Tree Species Vulnerability Assessment
- 7/14 IDNR Poster Contest: Trees & Pollinators Make Perfect Partners
- 7/29 Arbor Foundation: Summer watering advice
- 7/29 Arbor Foundation: Ready Your Trees Before Storm Season

8) Committee Reports

- a) Outreach & Engagement
- Update on programs

9) City Forester's Report

- a) Update on IRA grant progress
- b) Other projects

10) Old Business

- a) CommuniTree grant for fall planting; volunteers
- b) Jen & Betsy: review of ordinance updates, fundraising strategy
- c) Nancy: tree planting line in city budget? (from March meeting)

11) New Business

- a) Mary Nell will not be attending the Oct 7 meeting. Who can take minutes?

12) Comments—Council Liaison

13) Comments--Board Members

14) Next Meeting September 2, 2026 at 5:30 pm, IBEW Building, ALCO

15) Adjournment