

TREE BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 7TH 2023

CALL TO ORDER-

Candy called meeting to order 4pm.

ROLL CALL- Candy Kirchberg Tree Board Chair, Jon Foster the City Forester, Morgan Sheppard, Gera Mendoza, Mayor Klein, Peg Esposito, and Sonya Dailey

Mark Sesselman - Public

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 12TH MINUTES

Peg Esposito made motion to except last meeting minutes and the Mayor made the second all remaining members approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC-

NONE

ARBORIST REPORT

TREE PLANTING 2023 DISCUSSION-

89 trees planted in parks and on city terraces during the month of October of which 11 were donated, some by residents and 2 trees by Modern Woodmen. The majority were containerized trees, and some were B&B trees. There were 9 B&B 2.5 DBH trees planted downtown in early October and Jon addressed some issues with some of the downtown tree wells being flooded with water and how not filling the wells with woodchips may help them dry out.

SPONGY MOTH DISCUSSION-

Jon Foster City Forester discussed how 12,000.00 plus will be needed; 5,000 for equipment and 7,000 for chemicals for next year to control spongy moths in the city. Golden Pest spray will be used to kill the reachable spongy moth nests from the ground.

Jon requested that we reallocate funds from tree protection guards (15,000.00) to purchase spongy moth chemicals and equipment this year. The Mayor made the motion to reallocate the funds and Peg Esposito seconded and all remaining members voted to approve.

The city website under forestry will be updated to address the public's concern about spongy moth and cicada populations and how citizens can help.

Peg Esposito requested that an expert in plant health care be brought in to address the City Council in February over effective treatment plans and the products used to combat spongy moth and other pests that affect the urban forest. Jon Foster the City Forester said he would contact a representative expert for that purpose.

TREE PROTECTION UPDATE-

Jon Foster City Forester discussed how larger diameter B&B trees planted in the downtown tree rings could help stop some of the vandalism, and how tree guards could still be used to further ensure protection against vandalism. Money would have to be requested for the tree guards in 2024.

Peg Esposito discussed using Palmer Hamilton LLC of Elkhorns apprentice program to build tree protection guards for the downtown trees. The materials would be purchased in bulk through them to lower the cost and would be built by welding apprentices who are training for the company. Jon Foster City Forester stated he would draw up rough draft plans for the guards so that the project could move forward and estimates of cost could be determined.

CHRISTIMAS TREE DISCUSSION-

11-8-2023 day to decorate City tree board Christmas tree. For the parade of trees at the city museum

NEXT MEETING DATE-

Tuesday January 9th, 2024. 4pm

ADJORNMENT-

Mayor made a motion to adjourn, Sonya made the second all remaining members agreed.