

Laurel Tree Board Meeting  
Minutes  
9-5-24  
Council Conference room

Attendance: Matt Wheeler, Tom Canape, LuAnne Engh, Bridget Coleman, Michelle Mize, guest Bill Hansen

1. Public Input
2. General Items.
  - a. August minutes
  - b. Members – currently we have 5 members, Michelle Mize, Tom Canape (council members), Bridget Coleman, LuAnne Engh and Phyllis Bromgard. We've asked the City Council to drop our committee from 7 to 5 since we can't keep enough for quorum. We still have advisors in Aaron Christensen and Dan Fevold. Bill Hansen is considering our committee since LuAnne would like to leave after 13 years. Tom has talked to Phyllis and she wants to remain active.
  - c. Arbor Day – Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> Thomson Park 12-3pm We have 130 students with Graff and New Life attending. They will bring sack lunches. We'll have lunch for the adults. We'll provide ice cream bars. The program will highlight the 2024 tee shirt designer, Quinn Butler. We'll have the American Legion honor the flag and the fireman will be there with the trucks. Seven presenters have agreed to attend. Students will return to their schools before 3:00.
  - d. DNRC – report- Michelle organized the tree inventory with the DNRC June 25<sup>th</sup>. Two wards still need to be finished. We decided to attempt this next Spring when the trees leaf out in May. We still need to figure out how to get the software to do the project. Supposedly we should do this every 3 years.
  - e. Trees on public/private boulevards – The DNRC says it is in our city ordinances that the city is responsible for the care of boulevard trees. Matt has maintained that the city ISN'T responsible and that trees that the state has planted in projects on Main street and 8<sup>th</sup> street belong to the homeowner and they should water and care for them. We will work with the city attorney on getting this issue clarified.
  - f. Jean Carol Library Tree – the plaque from Bright n Beautiful will be installed soon. It's black granite with white lettering. Granite can be placed directly in the ground without concrete.
  - g. Tree maintenance – Matt asked that we approve spending \$11,000 to clean up the dead branches on all the trees in Thomson Park. Everyone could use some attention. He will get another bid before presenting the bill to Council. We approved the spending.
  - h. Arbor Day Accounts – City \$100 – Foundation - \$2014 –

Old Business

City ordinance – Michelle Braukmann (city Attorney) will continue to review the city ordinance regarding liability to the city on trees on boulevards. She would like to make a presentation at the next meeting.

1. Grants for the future

Meeting Adjourned at 5:15

Next Meeting: October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4:30 Council Conference Room (unless otherwise advised)