

Laurel Tree Board Meeting
Minutes
2-1-24
Council Chambers

Attendance: Walt Widdis, Paul Kober, Bridget Coleman, Michelle Mize, Phyllis Bromgard, Aaron Christensen and LuAnne by phone.

1. Public Input
2. General Items.
 - a. January minutes
 - b. Michelle said the DNRC grant is submitted but we haven't heard if it's been received.
 - c. Grants – The larger grant that was due next week will not work this year. Tree inventory and a good long term plan need to be developed first. We should follow up with that. Michelle clarified with Sheri @ DNRC that irrigation and landscaping materials are not covered in the grant but employee/volunteer hours can be used to match funds .
 - d. City ordinance – Michelle Braukmann (city Attorney) will continue to review the city ordinance regarding liability to the city on trees on boulevards.
 - e. Fundraising – Paul will contact Rotary, Lions and Cenex for donations toward our trees. We need about \$1500 more.
 - f. Trees – Aaron will check on trees. We'd like to plant 3 Sienna Maples since they have done the best in the stressful soil. He estimates trees to cost \$700 each for 2.5 in trunks.
 - g. Vendors – LuAnne contacted the 7 vendors we had last year. CM trees has said no and LuAnne will follow up to find out why. Shei Kisch has said yes and LuAnne will follow up with the others.
 - h. Shirts – Dynamic can print full color for \$10.60 plus \$3 for XX and \$4 for XXX. For 48 shirts it would cost \$500. We are using orange shirts. There isn't a place for a banner so the only advertising will be on the shirts and the program.
 - i. Food – SOW has agreed to serve sloppy joes again. Lynne is going to get a good head count. It was mentioned that the Food Dude has a 4th grader and people love his food. He might give us a deal . Aaron will talk with him.
 - j. If the trees in Kiwanis park need extra trimming, we might ask local pros to give some service to those trees that need help to make the trees healthier. LuAnne will speak to Steve Larned and Matte Melle.
 - k. Fireman and American Legion – Michelle will contact JW Hopper and Richard Close
 - l. Tents – we have two square tents....if the weather is rough we may need a bigger one.
 - m. Bathrooms, tables and chairs, stage trailer and power – Matt Wheeler

Old Business

1. Arbor Day: Tuesday, May 7th noon – Kiwanis Park –
2. Theme: Trees – Beauty & Opportunity by artist Quinn Butler, grade 7, School of Life

3. Lynn Peterson – 117 4th graders in 7 classrooms. We'll send a flyer explaining this year and educate about zero waste picnic.
4. MUCFA – Still not a member, but their convention is in March. Hopefully we can find out more about that.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2024 4:30 Council Conference Room (unless otherwise advised)

EST. 2015

LAUREL MONTANA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INC.

“FOR THE FUTURE”

A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

PO Box 1138 | LAUREL, MT 59044

To Laurel advocates:

The Laurel Tree Board has been in existence for over 16 years. Since 2017, we have been designated a Tree City USA. This means we have dedicated funds for managing and caring for city trees. Every year the city and the Tree Board sponsor the planting of a tree or trees for National Arbor Day in one of our city parks. For the past seven years we have included the 4th graders throughout the city. The event includes various government organizations that educate the students on the environment, nature, pests, fish, weather and trees. It's a half day spent outdoors and everyone has a memorable experience. Our teachers look forward to this yearly event. For 2024, we are holding our Arbor Day celebration on May 7th in Kiwanis Park. Three trees will be added to the west side of Kids Kingdom playground to provide shade. We will also replace any young trees that have died in our parks. The cost of the celebration including tree purchases is \$3,000. We are looking for sponsors for this event and hoping you will join us.

We have partnered with the Laurel Montana Community Foundation this year so our donations will be monitored by them. The LMCF is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit Corporation that has been a wonderful asset to the fundraising in our community. If you would like to support our efforts this year, checks can be made to Laurel Montana Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1138, Laurel, MT 59044. Donations can also be made online at www.laurelcommunity.org.

If you would like information about the Arbor Day Celebration, please call LuAnne Engh 406-698-0121.

If you have questions about the Laurel Montana Community Foundation, call Jon Rutt 406-861-7169.

Laurel Tree Board

LuAnne Engh
Bridget Coleman
Aaron Christensen
Pastor Walt Widdis
Phyllis Bromgard
Paul Kober
Michelle Hammer Mise



The Laurel Montana Community Foundation Incorporated is a Montana Non-Profit, tax exempt Public Benefit Corporation. We are a 501(c)(3) organization exempt from federal income tax with an EIN of 47-3756434.