

TREE BOARD

December 4, 2023

The Tree Board of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met for a meeting appearing on the 4th day of December 2023, at 4:06 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Menzie and Members Fagin, Janaway, Roux and Tedder-Loffland
Absent: Members Buthod and Spain
Tardy: Member Ackmann and Barksdale
City Officials: Colin Zink, City Forester
Karla Sitton, Administrative Technician IV

ITEM 1, being:

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Member Fagin made the motion and Member Janaway seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Menzie and Members Fagin, Janaway, Roux and Tedder-Loffland
NAY: None

ITEM 2, being:

CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CITY OF NORMAN TREE STORY AND ART CONTEST

Member Fagin said he sent out contest information to Peach Jar and asked if any applications have been received to date. Member Tedder-Loffland said no online applications have submitted yet; however, the contest runs through January 31st. Mr. Colin Zink, City Forester, said the contest and link were posted on the Parks and Recreation Facebook page. Member Roux said while walking her housing addition to inform her neighbors about the contest, one young lady informed her she was in the contest a few years ago, but was never informed of results. Ms. Karla Sitton, Admin Tech IV, suggested putting the winners on social media and the Board agreed. Chair Menzie said there is not a January meeting and suggested the Board review applications in February. He said the winners could be announced in late February or early March and the Board agreed.

Member Barksdale arrived to the meeting at 4:09 p.m. and Member Ackmann arrived to the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

ITEM 3, being:

UPDATE REGARDING THE URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN AND TREE INVENTORY PROJECT

Mr. Colin Zink, City Forester, said the City did not budget for a city-wide tree inventory; therefore, only trees in City parks and on City property will be inventoried. He said the tree inventory will be completed in the Spring and the data collected will help produce an Urban Forest Master Plan. Member Tedder-Loffland said she thought the City requested funding for a city-wide tree inventory and Mr. Zink said the Parks and Recreation requested funding for the master plan but not a *city-wide* inventory. Member Tedder-Loffland felt the master plan should include all trees, not only city-owned trees and Mr. Zink felt including all trees would be more of a canopy study rather than a master plan. Member Tedder-Loffland

said she thought the City was doing a master plan in order to have a guide to replace canopy that was removed a few years ago (on Berry Road). She asked whether the Tree Board should request additional funding and Mr. Zink suggested the members contact their respective councilmember. Member Tedder-Loffland felt like this is a perfect time for the City to be in the planning stage of creating a canopy and educate the public about what type of tree and where a tree should (and should not) be planted. Mr. Zink said information about "right tree/right place" could possibly be addressed in the master plan. Chair Menzie felt the proposed inventory would be a good start and give valuable information. Mr. Zink agreed and said the data collected will back up the master plan. He said Davey Tree would present a proposed Ordinance update and Urban Forest Master Plan at a future Tree Board.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

Mr. Colin Zink said bid sheets were sent out to have trees trimmed in the downtown Main Street area and in Campus Corner. He said letters were mailed notifying the business and property owners.

Staff reminded the Board there will not a January Tree Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Fagin made the motion and Member Janaway seconded to adjourn. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Menzie and Members Ackmann, Barksdale, Fagin, Janaway, Roux and Tedder-Loffland

NAY: None

Passed and approved this 5th of February 2024

Don Menzie, Chairperson


