

TREE BOARD

June 5, 2023

The Tree Board of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met for a meeting appearing on the 5th day of June 2023, at 4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Menzie and Members Buthod, Janaway and Spain
Absent: Members Ackmann, Fagin, Pape & Tedder-Loffland
City Officials: James Briggs, Park Development Manager
Karla Sitton, Administrative Technician IV

ITEM 1, being:

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 1, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

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

YEAH: Chair Menzie and Members Buthod, Janaway and Spain
NAY: None

ITEM 2, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE TREE PHOTO CONTEST PLANNING

Chair Menzie said Member Tedder-Loffland and Member Fagin have been working together on this project and suggested picking up discussions when they return to the August meeting.

ITEM 3, being:

CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING "FRIENDS OF TREES" RECOGNITION PROCESS

Member Buthod said she contacted the Builders Association of South Central Oklahoma (BASCO) as well as the Cleveland County Master Gardeners Association to get recommendations on citizens and/or organizations from them, but neither groups have responded to her yet. Mr. James Briggs, Park Development Manager, suggested she contact Lora Hoggett, in the City Planning Department, and Curtis McCarty, local builder and BASCO member. Chair Menzie said Colin Zink, City Forester, brought information and pictures from Grant Rieger, a local Eagle Scout, regarding a tree-planting project at Ruby Grant Park. He suggested awarding the "Friends of Trees" recognition award to Grant Rieger and Mr. Briggs said he would check with Staff about scheduling a time to present him the award at a Council Meeting. Member Spain requested Staff mention that Grissom Landscape Nursey donated the trees for the project.

ITEM 4, being:

UPDATE REGARDING THE RFP FOR THE URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN AND TREE INVENTORY PROJECT

Mr. James Briggs, Park Development Manager, said Staff is currently negotiating with Davey Tree Service to complete the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) and Tree Inventory Project. He said Davey Tree Service miscalculated the project area regarding the tree inventory, but they are the best choice for the ordinance

update and UFMP. Mr. Briggs said if feasible, the tree inventory project will be done; however, that scope of work may have to be put on hold. He said Staff will bring an update on the project(s) to the next meeting.

ITEM 5, being:

DISCUSS "WALK IN THE FOREST" EVENT

Mr. James Briggs, Park Development Manager, said the Parks and Recreation Department is partnering with the Oklahoma State Forestry Division to put on a "Walk in the Forest" event. The free event is family friendly and scheduled for Saturday, September 23, 2023 from 8am to 12pm at Ruby Grant Park. Mr. Briggs said Colin Zink, City Forester, would lead a 90-minute walk throughout the forest areas of the park where various informational stations would be set up. He said participants will learn about erosion, dendrochronology, water quality, invasive species, wildlife and more! The Board discussed and said they would volunteer where needed for this wonderful event.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Menzie made the motion and Member Spain seconded to adjourn. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Menzie and Members Buthod, Janaway and Spain

NAY: None

Passed and approved this 7th of August 2023

Don Menzie, Chairperson

