

TREE BOARD

August 1, 2022

The Tree Board of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met for a meeting appearing on the 1st day of August 2022, at 4:00 P.M.

ITEM 1, being:

ROLL CALL

Present:	Chair Menzie and Members Ackmann, Buthod, Fagin, Janaway, Pape, Spain and Tedder-Loffland
Absent:	Member Gourley
City Officials:	Colin Zink, City Forester Karla Sitton, Admin Tech IV

ITEM 2, being:

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 6, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

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

YEAH:	Chair Menzie and Members Ackmann, Buthod, Fagin, Janaway, Pape, Spain and Tedder-Loffland
NAY:	None

ITEM 3, being:

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

YEAH:	Chair Menzie and Members Ackmann, Buthod, Fagin, Janaway, Pape, Spain and Tedder-Loffland
NAY:	None

ITEM 4, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE CHANGES

Mr. Colin Zink, City Forester, said City Council approved a one-time FYE 22-23 budget increase to the Tree Program Capital Project in the amount of \$100,000 to assist with a right-of-way street inventory for the City, updating the current Tree Ordinance and updating the Urban Forestry Master Plan. He said he will put together a RFP for the scope of work; however, Davey Resource Group (Davey) gave a presentation at City

Council Oversight Committee in January, 2022, and will likely be the contractor hired to perform the work. Mr. Zink said Staff has worked with Davey in the past and felt their work will open up State and National grant opportunities. Member Fagin asked Staff to go over the scope of work regarding the ordinance update and Mr. Zink said if selected, Davey will assist Staff with the current ordinance, specifically address the requirements and restrictions for arterial street trees. Mr. Zink said he would bring proposed updates to the Board for input and recommendations. Member Fagin asked whether the Board should review the current ordinance and Mr. Zink felt that a review should wait until we see what updates/changes the contractor will recommend first. Member Tedder-Loffland asked what was lacking in the ordinance and Member Spain asked what the City Attorney's Office would rather have in the ordinance, a penalty for removing a tree or replanting a tree if a tree is removed? Member Fagin said Davey has a lot of experience and Mr. Zink felt that we need to wait and see what options the contractor suggests for the ordinance updates. Member Fagin asked whether the City of Oklahoma City (OKC) had a tree ordinance and Staff was not sure; however, Member Buthod and Chair Menzie said OKC has a lot of do's and don'ts regarding trees, but they do not have a tree ordinance. Member Janaway asked whether the City should lesson the tree requirement for new construction and Chair Menzie felt like it should not be lessened.

Mr. Zink reminded the Board that the RFP will also assist with the right-of-way street inventory for the City as well as the Urban Forestry Master Plan. Chair Menzie felt getting Davey's expertise will be very helpful and Member Spain agreed.

ITEM 5,

DISCUSSION REGARDING TREE STORY CONTEST PLANNING

Member Fagin said he would update the existing flyer, change the date(s) and prize(s). He said once Norman Public Schools approve it, he can upload the flyer to Peach Jar in September and/or October. Chair Menzie said Tree Wizard will donate this year's prizes again, and he will let the Board know what the prizes will be for first, second, and third places. Member Pape asked how many tree stories are usually submitted each year and Member Fagin said it varies from year to year. He said when teachers make submitting a tree story an assignment, the numbers are much higher.

Member Pape felt the Tree Story Contest is an interesting and worthy project and the Board agreed. Member Fagin said the Board had intentions to honor the 2021 Tree Story contest winners at the 2022 Earth Day Event, but it was cancelled last minute due to the weather. Member Buthod suggested buying the book "*Forest Trees of Oklahoma*" for all the kids who submit a tree story and said they only cost \$4.00 per book.

ITEM 6, being:

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION:

Chair Menzie said due to the weather we have been experiencing (above average temperatures and no rain) he has notice three times more dead trees in Norman. Mr. Colin Zink, City Forester, suggested watering trees "deep" once or twice a week, i.e., slower water output for a longer period of time. He said he has uploaded information and suggestions to the City's website regarding the care of trees during the recent weather/drought.

Member Tedder-Loffland asked the Board if a Tree Photo Contest was something they still wanted to pursue and the Board said yes. She said she could attend a future Park Foundation meeting and/or speak to a Park Foundation Member regarding online applications and payments. Member Tedder-Loffland said photos can be submitted digitally and those photos selected can be displayed at the Norman Public Library and possibly the Santa Fe Depot. The Board discussed the Tree Photo Contest last fall and those discussions included promoting the contest on Facebook, newspapers, and other social outlets as well as opening up the contest state-wide. Member Tedder-Loffland said the winners could be announced at the 2023 Earth Day Event. Members Fagin and Buthod volunteered to help with the Tree Photo Contest.

Item 7, being:

ADJOURNMENT

Member Tedder-Loffland made the motion and Member Pape seconded to adjourn. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Menzie, Members Ackmann, Buthod, Fagin, Janaway, Pape, Spain
and Tedder-Loffland

NAY: None

Passed and approved this 3rd of October 2022

Don Menzie, Chairperson X 