

COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD

December 11, 2018

Members Present: Andy Campbell, Vice Chair; Emily Casper, Mary Sweeney and Kendall Weyers
Members Absent: Eric North, Chair and Scott Hofeling
Staff Present: Lynn Johnson, Lorri Grueber, Bob Weyhrich, Chris Myers and Janet Ball
Staff Absent:

Vice Chair, Andy Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. He pointed out the Open Meeting Act posted on the wall. Kendall made a motion to approve the November minutes, Mary seconded, voted, minutes approved.

Public Comments: None.

New Business: A motion was made to amend the agenda to add the Forestry Quarterly report. Chris reported that a contract has been accepted and signed to have the October 14th storm debris chipped and hauled away from the seven public sites along with the five golf course sites. They should be started within the next 14 days.

Election of Officers: Kendall stated that Eric has agreed to be on the slate as Chair for a second term, and Mary as Vice Chair. Emily made a motion to accept the slate of officers, Kendall seconded, voted, slate accepted and voting will take place in January.

Arbor Day: Mary and Lorri discussed ideas for the celebration. Lynn stated that it was ok to go forward with the changes to the program. Mary announced that she will be leaving the Arbor Day Foundation in two weeks but will stay on the Board. She stated that she will have contacts at Arbor Day Foundation and will be in contact with them to help with raising sponsorship money for the event. LaShall Bradley Williams will take over a portion of Mary's job. Mary also request that potential sponsors be notified soon to see who wants to host the event.

It was also determined that the program be set with the funds on hand and if sponsorships come thru we could add to the event. Andy suggested having a small event each day of Arbor Week that builds up to the Friday, Arbor Day large event.

Public Outreach: Discussion took place regarding a web-page dedicated to CFAB. Lynn showed the Community Forestry page on the City of Lincoln's website Lincoln.ne.gov and updates to the page were discussed. The keywords: trees and forestry both route to the Forestry page. Lorri asked about a Facebook page and was told that Kat Scholl monitors that and will put anything requested either on Facebook or the forestry web page.

Andy request that we table this discussion and add "tabled action for agenda" to the January agenda.

Staff Reports: Lynn stated that the wood usage workshop that was held November 28th and 29th went well. Approximately 50 were in attendance on the 28th and 25 on the 29th. Many things about wood were discussed. Don Petersen with the Forest Service discussed urban wood issues and people looking for lots. Don predicted that between 80% and 90% of all Ash wood will be made into mulch, based on how much of the tree is useable wood. Lynn stated that she was surprised to learn how many local saw mills are in operation. One mill will process up to a 60" log and is willing to make slabs available. Andy asked if the logs are treated for EAB before being cut into slabs. Lorri replied, "No". Lorri stated that the public was disgruntled about the wood waste that was taken to Hofeling Enterprises. It was suggested to have a "Craig's List" type page to list available wood.

Lynn reports that the City Council held a public hearing on the EAB Action Plan and then approved the plan on December 10th. They also approved a no cost permit to treat trees and the “adopt an Ash” program will be available in the spring of 2019.

Andy reported that EAB was found in Fremont. Mary stated that the wood quarantine was removed due to the wide-spread of the insect.

Lynn stated that no funds are available at this time to help private property ash tree owners with the removal of private ash. However, Urban Development may have grant funds for private tree removal for elderly or low income home owners.

Kendall asked if Jocelyn Golden from City Attorney’s office will be in attendance in January as mentioned in the November minutes. Lynn will invite her.

Adjourn: Emily made a motion to adjourn, Kendall seconded, meeting adjourned at 4:47 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Ball
Recording Secretary

Next meeting is January 8, 2019