

COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD

June 11, 2019

Members Present: Mary Sweeney, Vice Chair; Emily Casper, Kendall Weyers Lashall Bradley Williams, and Jessica Gieseke

Members Absent: Eric North, Chair and Scott Hofeling

Staff Present: Lorri Grueber, Adam Klingenberg, Chris Myers, Kaylyn Neverve and Janet Ball

Staff Absent: Lynn Johnson

Call to Order: Vice Chair, Mary Sweeney called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. She noted the Open Meeting Act posted on the wall. Mary welcomed two guest, Erin Chambers, a UNL Student and Mark Wilson, with the Near South neighborhood.

New Member: Lachel Bradley-Williams was welcomed as an OFFICIAL member of the Board! Lachel is employed with the Arbor Day Foundation, welcome Lachel!

New Community Outreach Forester: Adam Klingenberg was introduced as Lorri's replacement as the new Community Outreach Forester. Adam has been a Parks and Recreation employee for 14 years, eight of which have been with the Forestry section.

Minutes: Hearing no changes or corrections to the April 9, 2019 minutes, Jessica made a motion to approve them, Lachel seconded, voted, minutes approved.

Public Comments: Erin stated that the Arbor Day celebration was fun but cold!

Arbor Day: Jessica stated that she potted 115 trees and gave away about 100 of them. The Sowers brought bare root trees but didn't give away very many. Oak Creek Nursery donated 6" pots to Jessica to pot the trees. Lorri will send a thank you note to both Oak Creek Nursery and the NRD for their donations.

Lachel agreed that Arbor Day was an awesome celebration, especially the EAB costume and film clip. It will be used as an EAB media release in the future. Mary said the day turned out great and according to Jessica approximately 150 people were in attendance. Lorri hopes to help improve the event by determining a location sooner for 2020 than we did this year.

Jessica asked if a committee needs to be board members to which Lorri answered no, anyone can be on it. Discussion took place regarding using an enclosed shelter or Recreation Center to have the ability to move activities indoors should it be cold again. Erin Chambers volunteered to be on the Committee, so did Jessica and Mary. Lorri and Adam will represent parks staff on the committee. Lorri commented that the City does not have a rule stating that the event must take place on Arbor Day. April 25, 2020 is the last Saturday in April next year. Mary request that Kat Scholl be on the committee for publicity.

EAB: Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in Lincoln, at both 40th and F Streets and at 22nd & R Streets. Adam was on site when both sites were discovered. The Adopt-an-Ash program was kicked off at about May 1st and has had good results. The idea behind this program is to help property owners from being taken advantage of by having a list of chemical applicators that are licensed to do the injections.

Adam shared a copy of a door hanger that will be placed at properties in select locations stating that their Ash tree will be removed if they do not notify us of their intent to treat. They will be given 30 days to contact us. Adam stated this gives homeowners a "Call to Action". The hope is that renters will give the hanger to the property owner.

Mary asked if homeowners have any funding resources to help treat or remove trees on their private property. Lorri stated no, not at this time. She has visited with Wynn from Urban Development and hopes they will come up with funding for private tree owners.

Tree Board Handbook; Emily has finished reading the book. Lorri stated it was presented as an attempt to get the Board to discuss different things that are within the realm of the Board to accomplish. Mary suggested discussing a chapter at a time.

Public Outreach: Arborjet Company came to Lincoln on May 23rd to do a demonstration of how their product works, how to use it and how to treat Ash trees. They adopted three Ash trees and injected them. Lorri and Adam are discussing hosting another event at the end of August and invite the tree board and applicators to attend at that time. Mary asked how the injections work, to which Adam replied that the larvae feeds on the chemical and die. Arborjet is using a 4% solution so it has a very small exposure and does not harm bees or other pollinators.

New Business: Lachel stated that Eric North's class at UNL had 14 students doing a Master Street Tree plan that was presented to Lorri Grueber and Lynn Johnson before Arbor Day. Erin was one of the students that worked on it and stated it was a reflection of learning and would be more helpful to take this and combine it with other Communities for guidelines.

Mary stated that she thinks it would be beneficial to the board to do a tour and visit the EAB site. Lachel suggested engaging the public with event like hosting a booth at Naturepoliza. She (Lachel) also suggested working with Arbor Day Foundation and a local nursery to give one to three gallon sized trees to the public next year.

Adjourn: Emily made a motion to adjourn, Kendall seconded, meeting adjourned at 5:02 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Ball
Recording Secretary

Next meeting is July 9, 2019