

COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD

July 9, 2019

Members Present: Eric North, Chair; Mary Sweeney, Vice Chair; Emily Casper, Kendall Weyers Lachel Bradley-Williams, and Scott Hofeling

Members Absent: Jessica Gieseke

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

Staff Absent:

Call to Order: Chair Eric North called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm and pointed out the Open Meeting Act that is framed and on the wall. Mary made a motion to approve the June Minutes, Kaylyn stated she was in attendance, Emily seconded approval as corrected, voted, minutes approved.

Guests present: Erin Chambers

Public comments: none

New Business: *Status of term expiration*

Discussion of whose term expires and when took place. Scott Hofeling is expiring in August 2019; Emily is August 2020, and says she will retire from the board at that time. Mary has served since November 2014 so just a little over a term. Her term and Kendall's term both expire on August 14, 2019. Lorri asked if they would like to renew their commitment to the Board. Both will let her know next month.

CFAB Photo: since Eric will not be in town for our August meeting, the picture of the Board has been set for our meeting on September 10, 2019. A suggestion was made to move the August date to a restaurant and different date. Lynn stated the meeting place has to be a City owned building. It is best to not get in the practice of moving our dates.

Questions from CFAB regarding planting/pruning practices: Kendall said that the 19th and Park area use to be planted with big Pin Oak trees that were too big for the area. He asked if there was an ordinance prohibiting planting on a four foot right-of-way or what would explain why trees are not being planted in that area. Lorri replied no but that area has a lot of rental properties and may not want new trees. Adam stated that when Oak trees removed most of the homeowners are tired of messing and cleaning up acorns and choose to not replace them. Lorri mentioned that we can still use our easement planting program to plant on private property. After one year the tree becomes a private tree. Lynn stated that with our voucher program only three of every five trees that are removed are being replaced.

Mary asked if we no longer use vouchers and Parks and Recreation replaces the trees removed, would that work. Lynn said no, we have planted on arterial streets due to community impact but the problem with planting small street trees is snow removal. Plows break off small trees when pushing snow off them. The last bid we received to plant was \$180 per tree but had no warranty. The trees were to be staked and have water bags.

Eric stated that some communities are using the Missouri Gravel bed program to grow trees. A City purchases bare root trees and heels them into a gravel bed or container. The trees in the gravel bed are planted in a ten inch spacing and six to eight inches deep. The trees are kept watered and put on a lot of root growth. In the fall the trees are pulled out of the gravel and taken to plant. After the few months in the gravel bed the trees are in good shape and well started. Lynn stated that we will try to plant 1,000 trees a year and logistics will be a problem. Lorri added that her staff is already three workers short and cannot take on another project like a green house. She asked the Board if this would be a project they would like to take on. Eric suggested using Master Gardner people with UNL Extension.

Discussion took place regarding the voucher program vs the City street tree planting.

Old Business:

Tree handbooks were discussed last month. Mary had suggested that everyone pick a chapter to discuss. Eric stated that was a good idea and next meeting everyone should pick one item to discuss or question. Mary suggested Chapter 5.

Public Outreach:

Lachel suggested setting the date for 2020. Lorri stated that the Jayne Snyder Trail Center and amphitheater have already been reserved. Lynn said we may not be able to bump the Earth Day Celebration. Mary suggested holding our Arbor Day celebration on Arbor Day, Friday, April 24th from 4 pm to 7 pm. Emily stated that we need to host an EAB question and answer booth to help homeowners with their private ash trees.

Staff Reports:

Ordinance update: Lynn stated that the best time to change ordinances is with the Law Department at the end of the year meaning that any changes would need to be finalized and submitted to Law by November 1st. Lynn stated that we should add it to the agenda for our September meeting.

EAB Update: Adam said they are working in Edenton South. One Hundred Ash trees are to be removed. He (Adam) and Lorri will be attending the Trendwood HOA meeting tonight to talk about Ash trees in that neighborhood.

Adam also stated that he put door hangers out in Meadowlane for tree removal and has received a very nice response from all.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Ball
Recording Secretary

Next meeting is August 13, 2019