

# COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD

October 8, 2019

Members Present: Jessica Gieseke, Scott Hofeling, Eric North, Mary Sweeney, Kendall Weyers  
Members Absent: Lachel Bradley-Williams and Emily  
Staff Present: Lynn Johnson, Lorri Grueber, Adam Klingenberg, Kaylyn Neverve, Janet Ball

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Eric North called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm, recognized the Open Meeting Act posted on the wall. Motion to approve minutes from August meeting made by Jessica Gieseke and seconded by Mary Sweeney, voted: approved unanimously.

**Guests present:** Two guests were in attendance, Parker Sundance, a student of Eric's at UNL, he is interested in our EAB preparedness program. Also Erin Chambers, a grad student at UNL in the Horticulture and Forestry School joined us. Welcome to both!

**Public comments:** No public comments.

**Old Business:** Nicole was not available to present today so we will invite her to attend the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. So please plan on meeting from 4 pm to 6 pm in December, as it will be a longer meeting.

## Public Outreach:

### *Arbor Day 2020*

Mary Sweeney reported, The Hub Café is very excited about partnering with CFAB on the Arbor Day 2020 event, as is White Elm Brewery. Suggested a get together with the Earth Day/Arbor Day groups to discuss how we can work together to co/cross promote both events. Mary asked if we had a budget set aside for Arbor Day? Lynn suggested that since we will hold the event at Union Plaza we may ask the Parks Foundation to help support Arbor Day with money from the endowment set up for events at Union Plaza. Lorri offered to talk to The Park Foundation for funding. She showed a sample of a t-shirt that Eric North had printed for UNL's Forestry program. Eric will check to see if his budget can cover the cost of 100 t-shirts.

Discussion took place regarding corporate sponsorships for Arbor Day. If they donate through the Parks Foundation, their contribution is tax deductible.

Lorri stated that the trees from the Downtown Lincoln Association were used in a park project and are no longer available to give away. She also stated that she has been talking to a representative of Aldersgate Methodist Church since they have been working with Finke Nursery doing landscaping at their campus. They have gotten grants to do native plantings and have planted more than 50 trees and more than 300 plants. Lorri asked "Steve" with the church to partner with Parks on Arbor Day.

Lorri has been involved with a citizen "Tim Renny" who lives in "Holly Hamlet" an area at approximately N 25<sup>th</sup> & T Streets. Tim has been growing edible food in every square inch of ground, including green beans, hazelnuts, and potatoes. Tim is a very knowledgeable man and offers food to passersby. His goal is to help feed the community. Lorri also asked him to partner with us for Arbor Day.

Other public outreach includes a new program that is called "Tree Campus" and is geared to students from kindergarten thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Lachel will discuss next month. Lorri will discuss it with Lachel. Mary and Jessica have discussed holding an outdoor classroom in one of our parks.

Kaylyn announced that October 19<sup>th</sup> will be a Volunteer project at Mahoney Park. Earl May is donating trees to plant. A news release will be issued soon to advise the public of the event. Start time is 9 a.m.

Eric stated the UNL just started a Forestry club. Their second meeting is on October 9, 2019. Eric will invite people to both the planting event on October 19<sup>th</sup> and Arbor Day. They are meeting on East Campus from 6 pm to 7 pm. Eric asked if he could do a demo of tree climbing at Arbor Day. Lynn suggested Trago Park for a tree climbing demo since Eric stated that it could not be done on UNL campuses. Lorri will talk to Risk and Law Departments for liability issues.

**New Business:** Eric states he is the Chair on another Board and suggested that we change By-Laws to vote for Chair and Vice Chair with the idea that the Vice Chair move into the Chair position the next year so only one position needs to be filled yearly. Lynn will check the by-laws. If the Board is interested in this, it should be on the agenda for November. Eric asked Jessica if she would serve for 2 years as Vice Chair, she responded with "yes". Eric will write a request to add this to the agenda.

**Staff Reports:** Lynn reports that the code amendment will be before the Council this month.

Lorri stated that Josh Rowell has been promoted to the open Arborist II position. There are currently two vacancies for Arborist I positions. Interviews have been done and she is waiting for the criminal history check before offering the positions to tentative employees.

**EAB:** Adam stated that crews are working at F Street. He (Adam) has posted door tags in the Withebee Neighborhood and the Near South neighborhood is replanted and completed. Lorri stated that the Park Districts will start removal of Ash in each district. Some trees in parks will be treated. She stated that on October 15, Arborjet will be at the MSC building at 11 am to do a hands on demonstration for staff regarding injections on park trees.

Jessica asked about the Adopt an Ash program, Adam stated that 126 Ash trees have either been treated or are slated to be treated in the spring. To be eligible for treatment the tree needs to be 14" DBH or greater.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Mary Sweeney, second by Kendall Weyers. Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Ball  
Forestry

Next meeting November 12, 2019