

Community Forestry Advisory Board meeting minutes

Location: Parks & Recreation Administration Office, 3131 O Street, Third Floor

Date: Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Attendees: Members Present: Lachel Bradley-Williams, Chair, Jessica Gieseke, Vice Chair, Kendall Weyers, Erin Chambers, Mark Wilson, Mary Sweeney

Members Absent: Patty Ngyuen

Staff Members Present: Lynn Johnson, Chris Myers, Lorri Grueber, Bryan Tlamka, Kaylyn Neverve

Members of the public present: None

Agenda items

1. Call to Order: Lachel Bradley-Williams called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and recognized the Open Meeting Act posted on the wall.
2. Roll Call: Roll was called by Bryan Tlamka declaring a quorum with six in-person Board members present.
3. Approval of previous minutes: Corrections to the previous minutes & notes were identified and recorded. A motion was made by Erin Chambers and seconded by Mary Sweeney to approve the minutes from November 10, 2020 and the notes from March 9, 2021. **Roll call vote: All Board members present voted "Yes". Motion carried.**
4. Public Comments: None.
5. Committee Reports:
 - a. Events Committee: Reported by Lachel Bradley-Williams.
 - i. May Day tree distribution. 250 trees were distributed in 45 minutes. The event was a success. The Arbor Day Foundation will continue to advocate for sponsorship of future tree distributions.
 - ii. The Arbor Day Foundation has approximately 8,000 one gallon Summer Cyprus plants that they are attempting to donate. The CFAB discussed ideas for distribution of these plants.

- iii. CFAB discussed implementing a cost share model for future tree distribution events. The Lincoln Parks Foundation may be an appropriate sponsor for cost share events. The CFAB Events committee will continue to discuss the topic.
- b. Policy Committee: Reported by Lynn Johnson and Kendall Weyers.
 - i. Recommendation to increase the surety amount per street tree from \$220 to \$250. A motion was made by Mary Sweeney and seconded by Mark Wilson to approve the surety increase. **Roll call vote: All Board members present voted "Yes". Motion carried.**
 - ii. Recommendation to increase the cost of "buy-out" of surety street trees from \$220 to \$250. The CFAB discussed raising the "buy-out" cost to \$325. A motion was made by Erin Chambers and seconded by Jessica Gieseke to approve the increase to \$325 per tree. **Roll call vote: All Board members present voted "Yes". Motion carried.**
 - iii. CFAB reviewed draft of the proposed letter to be sent to nurseries and garden centers encouraging discontinuing the sale of Callery Pear trees. A motion was made by Mark Wilson and seconded by Kendall Weyers to approve. **Roll call vote: All Board members present voted "Yes". Motion carried.**
 - iv. Perspectives on the development of a Community Forestry Master Plan presented by Kendall Weyers. Kendall Weyers recommended the City of Lincoln pursue the development of a Community Forestry Master Plan. The CFAB discussed potential sources of funding for the plan. Lynn Johnson discussed incorporating the Community Forestry Master Plan into the Capital Improvement Program for the City of Lincoln and presented data to support the recommendation. The CFAB supported the recommendation and a draft letter will be written on behalf of the CFAB. The CFAB will conduct a special meeting in July to review the draft letter prior to presenting the letter to the Mayor.
6. Staff Reports:
 - a. Quarterly report: presented by Lorri Grueber. The quarterly report is attached as an additional document. The quarterly report provided data outlining the focus of the Community Forestry crews during the 2nd quarter of calendar year 2021.
 - b. EAB response and recovery program status report: Presented by Lorri Grueber. Ash tree failures are increasing. Contracted Ash tree removal continues in the Meadowlane area of town. The city is treating as many Ash trees as possible.
 - c. Tree planting projects presented by Kaylyn Neverve: Over 200 trees planted during the Spring, half of which were Ash replacements. 300 street trees were planted as part of the West of surety project.
7. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.
8. Notes prepared by Bryan Tlamka, Office Specialist.

Next meeting September 14, 2021