

Community Forestry Advisory Board Quarterly Meeting Minutes

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

Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Attendees: Members Present: Lachel Bradley-Williams, Erin Chambers, Jessica Gieseke, Brian Munk, Pete Smith, Mark Wilson,
Members Absent: None
Staff Members Present: Sara Hartzell, Lorri Grueber, Adam Klingenberg, Michael Fallon, Kaylyn Nerverve, Ryan Steggall, J.J. Yost, Pam Hoffman
Other City Staff Members: Jocelyn Golden, Assistant City Attorney
Members of the public present: Kendall Weyers, Taylor Barnes – Arbor Day Foundation, Shannon Jerram – Arbor Day Foundation, Ann Powers – University of Nebraska.

Agenda items

1. **Call to Order:** Jessica Gieseke called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and recognized the Open Meetings Act posted on the wall.
2. **Roll Call:** Roll Call was taken. Quorum was present.
3. **Minutes from the September 13, 2022 & the October 11, 2022 Special meetings were approved.** Motion made by Lachel Bradley-Williams and seconded by Pete Smith for the September 13, 2022 meeting. Motion made by Erin Chambers and seconded by Brian Munk for the October 11, 2022 Special meeting.
4. **Public Comments:** None.
5. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Outreach/Education/Events**
 - i. **Presentation by the Arbor Day Foundation regarding Arbor Day 2023:** Taylor Barnes shared that the theme is “Celebrate, Inspire, Educate” – getting youth involved and inspiring communities. Shannon Jerram – Arbor Day 2023 Community wide celebration. Have previously planted trees, but maybe throw an Arbor Day party on Friday, April 28th, 2023 and considering a 12:00noon-3:00pm celebration. Ideas include having a DJ, food trucks, activities, educational booths, and maybe giveaways. Looking to have a partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation and Parks and Recreation. Location is to be determined, but possibly Antelope Park. Parks and Recreation will help with the Park logistics. Hoping to have buy-in from the Community Forestry Advisory Board to utilize connections for booths. The Arbor Day Foundation will have a booth. Jessica Gieseke – it would be great to have a substantial celebration, especially since the 2020 event was cancelled. Pete Smith – The celebration is a great idea. Lachel Bradley-Williams – Locking in educational booths ahead of time could put us ahead of the game. Erin Chambers – Consider if people are working from home and be flexible. It might be dead week for UNL. Pete Smith – also consider mobility on a non-school Friday. Maybe consider bringing a computer to

help people see where they could plant a tree on their property: bring a little tech to Arbor Day. Lachel Bradley-Williams – will continue discussions and send out emails to board members.

- ii. **Report on Tree Giveaway at Mahoney Park** – Kaylyn Neverve. The event went well. Mahoney was a great location. Thanks to staff and volunteers. It was pretty dark when the event started, so that was one of the flaws. We were able to track where the trees went and hit most of our target market.

b. Policy/Regulation Board Development

- i. **Input on RFP for Street Tree Master Plan** - Got lots of good input at the last meeting and great discussion. Parks and Recreation presentation to the Environmental Board was great.
- ii. **Development of Agenda for January Strategic Planning session** – Sara Hartzell suggested some topics. The facilitator has not yet been identified. Possibly two facilitators, so there would be one for each group when they split into two the two committees. Kendall Weyers – the previous meeting went well, so maybe this meeting can use the same format. Erin Chambers said she will send notes from previous session to Sara Hartzell.

6. **Nomination of Erin Chambers as Chair and Lachel Bradley-Williams as Vice Chair for 2023.** Motion to approve was made by Jessica Gieseke and seconded by Mark Wilson.
7. **Consideration of Suspension of Rules** to allow a vote on 2023 slate of officers. Motion to approve was made by Mark Wilson and seconded by Brian Munk.
8. **Vote on Chair and Vice Chair:** vote was taken by roll call. Motion carried.
9. **Staff Reports** – Sara Hartzell asked if the board if they still want to have sub-committee meetings on the months where there are no quarterly meetings. The Board said they do.
 - a. **Street Tree Master Plan & Inventory Process** – No updates yet. Looking at funding, maybe federal funding to cover costs. In a holding pattern for now. Maggie Stuckey-Ross hopes to have some updates on the Federal Funds soon.
 - b. **Street Tree related Municipal Code updates** – Mike Fallon – have met with developers. Reducing the number of trees that can be bought out and requesting a CAD plan that would help with Beehive inventory. Buyouts- developers says 20 plats, posts a bond at \$250 per tree. Some developers have realized that they can write a check and not have to plant the trees. Limit will be 20%. Final plats of 10 or fewer lots and they must have planted 80% of trees already. Will increase the cost of the buyout to \$250 and will likely increase each year.
 - c. **Street Tree Reports** – working to develop a dashboard of street tree data and new reports.
 - d. **Tree Planting Projects** – Kaylyn Neverve – gave away 300 trees. Planted 560 at Parks & Golf Courses and 300 were planted by volunteers. Six different Parks Planting Projects are planned for 2023. Mike Fallon – Street trees: residential and arterial street tree bid. Trying to replant trees where ash trees have come out. All contract planting with a two-year maintenance plan. Pete Smith – Is there some desired condition of the tree that we require of vendors? JJ Yost – We can report to purchasing any concerns but must have a lot of documentation. Not getting a lot of bids these days, so hope they don't have to restrict anyone.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m. Motion made by Lachel Bradley-Williams and seconded by Erin Chambers.

Minutes prepared by Pam Hoffman, Office Specialist.

Next Quarterly Board meeting will be on March 14, 2023.