

FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES – May 17, 2022

In attendance:

Carolyn Godfreed

Amy Sakariassen

Doug Prchal

Mitch Becker

Christy Ames-Davis

Doug Wiles

Greg Zenker

Dave Mayer

Stan Churchill

Absent:

Brett Gurholt

Mark Zimmerman

Erik Dietrich

The meeting was called to order at 12:17 p.m.

Approval of the minutes from the January 25, 2022 regular meeting of the FAB:

The meeting was called to order at 12:17 pm. Amy moved to approve the minutes. Carolyn seconded the motion. All were in favor & the motion carried.

Arbor Day Recap

Christy gave a recap of the 2022 Arbor Day Celebration. She reported beginning of Arbor Day week Christy, Doug, & Forrest Von Flickentale visited four 1st grade classrooms at Centennial School. They handed out little trees to the kids. They also visited the library for preschool reading with 25 kids & handed out trees. The Arbor Day celebration took place at Custer Park on Friday, May 6, 2022. The event was well attended. The 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade students from the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit Elementary School shared a poem and a song. Jeff Heintz was honoree and was presented with a plaque and a bur oak tree was planted in his name. Forestry handed out trees, apples, & promotional backpacks. The apples were provided for by AGL Landscape Architects. The week following Arbor Day Christy, Doug & Forrest met with two homeschool groups at Sertoma Park and showed them how to plant trees. Christy also shared that Forrest Von Flickentale's costume is wearing out and may be in need of some repairs. Amy stated she will check with a few people to see if they can help with repairs.

2022 Pruning Contract Update:

Doug W stated Beaver Creek has the pruning contract for 2022. There are 700 trees to be pruned on their contract. They started late this year due to weather. Doug W reported that contract is going well. They are working on approximately 120 trees on N Grandview Ln then will move N of Pinto Pl to Santa Gertrudis to the West side of Valley Dr.

European Elm Scale Treatment Update:

Doug W reported the budget committee approved \$200,000 contract for European Elm Scale injection treatment. Paul Bunyan Nursery from West Fargo was awarded the contract for treating Elm Scale which will begin May 23, 2022. They had to wait until Elm leaves were half elongated before treating. They will not be treating Elm trees that are 50% dead. Doug W reported he budgeted \$10 per inch for the treatments based off of quotes received in 2021. The bid came in low at only \$3.93 per inch. The total cost will be \$146,134.00. Doug W Stated we will potentially be able to extend the contract to add an additional 500 trees for treatments. The contractor will inject approximately 70 trees per day. Forestry will be inspecting the trees before any injections are done.

Forestry Inventory/Work Order Management Solutions

Doug W stated Forestry has been without asset management solution for many years. Doug W spoke with our City GIS Department and found that ESRI has a Tree Management Solution that we already have access to. They will be customizing the program for forestry. This program will help staff be more efficient in creating work orders and will benefit field staff in managing their workload.

Bismarck's 150th Birthday Planning

Doug W stated the Parks Department has allowed Forestry to plant 150 trees at New Generation Park for Bismarck's 150th Birthday. He stated he plans to have the volunteers help plant the trees. The tentative date for planting will be in September 2022. Doug W reported Prairie View Landscaping & Nursery is providing trees at cost. Doug W shared he is reaching out for other financial help & is working with Jason Tomanek for ideas. Amy suggested having Mark Zimmerman check with Boy Scouts.

Forestry Division Budget 2023

Doug W reported he is working on preliminaries for the 2023 budget. Forestry is requesting that a pruning contract, stump removal contract, & tree injection contract are funded for 2023.

Other Agenda Items

None

Meeting adjourned at 12:59 pm