

# FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES – July 20, 2021

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### **In attendance:**

Doug Prchal	Carolyn Godfread	Greg Zenker	Stan Churchill
Dave Mayer	Erik Dietrich	Brett Gurholt	Mitch Becker
Christy Ames-Davis	Doug Wiles		

### **Absent:**

Amy Sakariassen	Mark Zimmerman
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The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m.

### **Approval of the minutes from the October 20, 2020 regular meeting of the FAB:**

Brett Gurholt moved to approve the minutes. Stan Churchill seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

### **Arbor Day Recap:**

Christy Ames-Davis gave a recap of the 2021 Arbor Day Celebration. She stated it went great with positive feedback. Christy asked for ideas on how to present the Arbor Day awards more efficiently. It was decided to have those receiving awards to check in before the event starts. Christy mentioned Community Access usually shows an Arbor Day video; however, since the video is old they did not show it this year. They suggested Forestry possibly doing a video or reading a story. It was decided to brainstorm for ideas for next year. Brett G suggested microphone improvements so people can hear the presentations/skits better. Christy stated in addition to the Arbor Day event Forestry was involved in numerous activities throughout the week/month of May. They did small presentations with 2 homeschool groups on tree planting at Sertoma Park. They visited 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms at Centennial School with Forrest VonFlickentale. They did preschool reading at the library & planted trees at Liberty Elementary school with the class. Doug and Christy thanked Brett for being a great emcee volunteer for Arbor Day. Doug stated they will be starting to plan for next year's Arbor Day in the Fall. Christy will be working on partnering with schools for next year. Please let her know if anyone has any contacts with any schools or classes that may be interested in being involved with Arbor Day.

### **2021 Pruning Contract Update:**

Doug W reported the pruning contractors completed pruning a total of 214 trees south of Main St between 26<sup>th</sup> St & 12<sup>th</sup> St except for a few elm trees. So far forestry has spent \$17,000 to \$18,000 this year on pruning. The contractors are currently working in the German streets & will move to the Overlook area North of where the Street Improvement project is.

### **European Elm Scale Treatment Program Report: & Dutch Elm Disease Report:**

Doug W reported so far this year there have been 4 elm trees with Dutch Elm Disease, which includes 2 private trees and 2 boulevard trees. There have been 196 dead elm trees reported, which will be removed. This includes 81 boulevard trees, 35 private, 29 park, and 51 Capitol ground trees. He stated this is the highest number of dead elm trees we have removed. Doug W reported the drought has been horrible for the European Elm Scale disease and people not watering. The trees aren't getting moisture to fight the insect. For 2021 Forestry had \$20,000 in the budget to purchase chemicals for tree injections that have European Elm Scale. Doug reported Forestry has treated 231 trees that have European Elm Scale and have used half of the chemical for injections. Forestry is treating trees on Washington St between Rosser & Divide Ave, Ave C, Griffin to 4<sup>th</sup> St, on Ave B, and working west from Washington St. They have also treated elm trees at the Governor's Mansion. They will be treating/injecting the elm trees until the Fall. Doug W reported he is requesting funds in the budget for next year that would treat about 500 elm trees with the chemical injections. Carolyn asked how much it costs per tree to treat and Doug W stated \$10 to \$15 per inch. Doug P asked how often Forestry would need to treat the infected elm trees & Doug W stated every couple of years. Doug W reported there are 51 dead elm trees on Capitol grounds that need to be removed. Doug P stated he is encouraging those at the Capitol to treat/inject the Mall trees and to improve on their management of their trees on the grounds. Doug W stated currently there are approximately 60 boulevard trees scheduled to be removed. Doug stated we will be removing trees on the boulevard until September. Doug P stated people should be deep watering their boulevard trees. Doug W stated he and Christy are encouraging people to water their trees at least 1" per week along with the lawn sprinklers. Doug W also stated he released 4,000 green lace wings as another means to try & control the European Elm Scale.

### **Partners in Planting/Permits Report**

Christy reported this year they have received \$9,250 in donations for the PIP Program. They have rebated over \$11,000 which averages about \$82 per tree for 134 trees to 60 different recipients. She reported she has issued 194 permits this year of which 64 trees have been planted. Christy stated they are on track compared to other years. Doug W stated PIP requests may have increased this year for tree replacements due to early frost and smaller trees dying.

### **NDFS Species Diversity Grant (awarded!)**

Doug W reported we were selected as a large community to receive this \$30,000 grant for tree planting for over next 2 years. The areas identified for replanting are mainly those that have been removed with DED and European Elm Scale. If there are funds remaining it will go toward replacing ash trees on extra wide boulevards that need canopies.

### **City of Bismarck EAB Plan Update**

Doug W reported he is working on this. He will work on getting questions to Eric, Amy, & Doug P to call on different cities for ideas on how they handle EAB.

**Carolyn Godfreed Term (expired 3/21)**

Carolyn's term expired March 2021. She has agreed to extend her term serving on the FAB. Brett motioned for Carolyn to serve another term and Greg seconded the motion. All agreed. She has served on the Board since 1985. The FAB is thankful for her continued service. Christy reported we still have a vacancy on the FAB.

**Other Agenda Items**

No other items were brought up for discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.