

City of Pierre
Arbor Board Minutes
Tuesday, January 25, 2022

The January 2022 meeting of the City of Pierre Arbor Board was held at the City Hall Training room. Board Chair Art Smith called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. Those in attendance were: Board Chair Art Smith; and Board Members Adam Kulesa, Rollie Isaacson, Tony Dorschner and Mark Smith. Also present were Ex-Officio Members: Parks and Recreation Director Tom Farnsworth; and Parks Superintendent Tanya Lieberman.

The Board voted to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2021, meeting as presented. The Board voted to approve the proposed meeting agenda, with the addition of "Bird Feeding Schedule" to New Business.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *2022 Arboretum Walking Play.* Farnsworth updated the Board on this event. The City will not have much involvement - the site of the walking play will be between the Ike's shooting range and the river. This event will take place in the fall.
2. *List of DE Infected Trees Removed.* A list of 13 Dutch Elm infected American Elm trees (10 in the boulevard and 3 on private property) that were removed in December was presented to the Board. Because of the size and location of one of the trees, a professional tree service was hired for the work.
3. *Community Orchard Trees.* The last report to the Board was that the Girl Scouts were going to prune and trim the trees in the Community Orchard in the fall. From just driving by, it does not appear that this trimming was done. Chair Smith will check on this, particularly to see if they need any assistance.
4. *2022 Dakota ISA Conference.* Toby Stertz, Parks Department Crew Leader, and several others from the Parks Department, attended the 2022 Dakota ISA Conference in Aberdeen on January 12-14, 2022. Because of another work commitment, Toby was unable to attend today's meeting. He will report on that conference at the next Board meeting.
5. *2021 Tree City USA Application.* Farnsworth reported that the application paperwork was sent into the Arbor Day Foundation in December. The City is just waiting to hear back from the Foundation. Farnsworth also reported that he has prepared a packet of information for the next Parks and Recreation Director to use in preparing Tree City USA applications in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

6. *2022 List of Curb & Gutter Trees to be Removed.* A written list of the location of boulevard trees that will be removed as part of the City's 2022 curb & gutter repair was presented to the Board. A total of 9 trees will be removed in the four sections of

curb & gutter that will be worked on this year. The same process used in the past will be used by the City to inform the landowner of the affected trees, and letting the landowners know that the City will pay \$150 towards a replacement tree.

7. *2022 Draft Plan of Work Discussion, Including EAB Response Plan Review.* Farnsworth presented a draft Plan of Work for the Board for 2022. This plan includes work to revise the City's EAB Response Plan, if necessary. The Board will start reviewing the Plan of Work at the next Board meeting. A copy of the initial draft of the Plan of Work is attached. During this discussion, Lieberman indicated that she will be preparing a new tree planting and care BMP (best maintenance practices) for use by City employees. Once she has that document prepared, she will present it to the Board for review.

8. *Bird Feeding Schedule.* Mark fed the birds in December and will finish out January. Rollie will put out seed in February, and Tony will take March.

9. *Dialogue.* There was a brief discussion of Arbor Day activities (in April) for this year, particularly the distribution of trees to 2nd grade students in Pierre and Ft. Pierre. In the past, Rachel Ormseth and Will Hanson have taken the lead on this activity. With Rachel moving out of town, and Will no longer on the Board, some decisions about this activity may need to be made soon. Mark will contact Will Hanson to see if he has any interest in continuing his involvement with this project, and report back to the Board.

This was Tom Farnsworth's last meeting with the Board as Parks and Recreation Director before his retirement, after many years of dedicated service to the City, on January 27, 2022. All of the members of the Board thanked him for his service, and wished him well in his retirement.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Art Smith at 1:00 pm.

Next Meeting: Noon, Tuesday, February 22nd, City Hall Training Room

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark Smith, Arbor Board Secretary