

City of Pierre
Arbor Board Minutes
Tuesday, April 27, 2021

The April 2021 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 12:02 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: Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator Rachel Ormseth; Parks and Recreation Director Tom Farnsworth; and Park Superintendent Tom Moore.

The Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021, meeting as presented. The Board voted to approve the proposed meeting agenda, with the addition of “Ft. Pierre Tree Guide request” to New Business.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *Tree maintenance work updates.* Moore reported that the city park ash tree inventory has been completed. That inventory will be presented at the May meeting. The golf course handles the trees on the course, so those trees are not included in the city park inventory. Tree trimming is being done. Some new trees have been planted in the Arboretum.
2. *Arbor Day tree planting date/location.* The Arbor Day tree planting this year will be at the dog park – planting the new trees obtained through a state forestry office grant. Chair Smith reported that he does not know when all of the trees will be delivered. He said, however, that all of the tree species in the project were available. Chair Smith will get a date for the planting to the group and to the dog park organizers as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

3. *Highway 34 trees.* Chair Smith reported that he had noticed that some of the long-needle pines along Highway 34 east of town are showing signs of needle tip blight. He and Moore will go look at the trees. If they are going to be treated (the level of interest in treating the trees will need to be determined), that will need to be done soon.
4. *Request for memorial tree.* The city has been contacted by the family of Mike Kelley, requesting that a memorial tree be planted in Mike’s memory in the area of Dan Kelley Field. Dan and Mike Kelley were brothers. Laurie Kelley, Mike’s wife, would like to make a personal request to the Board at the May meeting. Farnsworth will make contact with Laurie to make arrangements.

The Don Trimble memorial tree, a bur oak, has been planted in Steamboat Park. A plaque to go along with the tree is being made, and will be installed once it is available.

5. *2021 Arbor Day proclamation.* The 2021 Arbor Day proclamation will be presented at the City Commission meeting on Tuesday, April 27th. This proclamation is part of the Tree City USA process. Chair Smith will be at the City Commission meeting for that presentation, will talk about the work of the Arbor Board with the Commission, and will answer any questions they may have.
6. *Ft. Pierre Tree Guide request.* The Ft. Pierre Arbor Board has made a request for the raw documents from the Pierre Tree Guide to use to create a guide for their use. After a lengthy discussion, a motion to TABLE that request was made, seconded, and passed by a vote of 5-1.
7. *Dialogue.* Rachel reported that the 2nd grade tree program will take place on April 29th and 30th at all the schools in Pierre and Ft. Pierre. This year, the programs will be done virtually. This program is sponsored by the Izaak Walton League.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Art Smith at 12:42 pm.

Next Meeting: Noon, Tuesday, May 25th , City Hall Training Room

Respectfully Submitted:



Mark Smith, Arbor Board Secretary