

City of Pierre
Arbor Board Minutes
Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Because of concerns about the Covid-19 virus, the April 2020 meeting of the City of Pierre Arbor Board was held with some members appearing in person and some by telephone. Board Vice-Chair Rollie Isaacson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Board Vice-Chair Rollie Isaacson; and Board Members Adam Kulesa, Tony Dorschner, Will Hanson and Mark Smith. Also present were Ex-Officio Members: Parks and Recreation Director Tom Farnsworth; Park Superintendent Tom Moore; Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator Rachel Ormseth; and Commissioner Vona Johnson.

Motion by Adam, second by Mark to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2020, meeting as presented, and to approve the proposed meeting agenda. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *Arboretum tree/shrub/sign replacement progress report.* Moore reported that the trees that have been ordered will be delivered on or about May 11, 2020. They will be planted as soon as possible. Moore also reported that drip irrigation is being set up to each tree. Additionally, the seasonal employee who works as a tree waterer starts on May 18th. One of that person's tasks will be to water the trees in the Arboretum. Moore reported that not all of the species will have three trees this year, but that future improvements will include making sure each species will have at least three trees.
2. *Arboretum pollinator/butterfly garden progress report.* Moore reported that they finished planting the pollinator/butterfly garden area on April 28th. The planting was mostly seeds. There will not be a lot of plugs. He reported that plugs will be coming around May 15th, and they will then be planted. The plan includes planting some gigantic sunflower seeds to create a maze-like look in part of the garden. Some prairie grasses will also be planted at a later date.
3. *James Likness Memorial Tree update.* Art is tracking the money that has been raised for this project. Because he was not at the meeting, there was no specific report. Art had earlier stated that he will make sure that Moore is kept in the loop about this planting.
4. *Wally Thomsen Memorial Tree Update.* Art is tracking the money that has been raised for this project. Because he was not at the meeting, there was no specific report. Art had earlier stated that he will make sure that Moore is kept in the loop about this planting.
5. *Dog Park Tree Update.* Farnsworth reported that the dog park group, headed by Guy Ferris, continues to raise money by getting sponsors for the trees. The City

hired Brosz Engineering to survey the area to make sure the trees will be planted in the right area. Farnsworth will make sure the dog park organizers are made of aware of the results of the survey. Rachel indicated that the dog park organizers did not apply for any grant funding from her office this spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

6. *Schedule for tree/shrub/flower planting at storm shelter.* Moore reported that the trees, shrubs and plants for the storm shelter planting project will not arrive until late May or early June. Moore reported that the irrigation system for that area will be in place by the time the plants arrive.
7. *Informational Updates.*
 - Tree City USA – Rachel reported that because of the current situation, the celebration standards for Tree City USA are being waived by the national Arbor Day Foundation. Farnsworth indicated that as trees are planted for the different projects, particularly for the improvements at the Arboretum, and at the storm shelter projects, pictures will be taken. Hopefully, these can be shared with the Arbor Day Foundation. Mark brought up the idea of putting up a flag pole at the Arboretum to display a Tree City USA flag. That idea will be discussed at the May meeting.

There being no further business, Vice-Chair Rollie Isaacson adjourned the meeting at 12:20 pm.

Next Meeting: Noon, Tuesday, May 26th , City Hall Prairie Room

Respectfully Submitted:



Mark Smith, Arbor Board Secretary