

City of Pierre
Arbor Board Minutes
Tuesday, May 26, 2020

The May 2020 meeting of the City of Pierre Arbor Board was held at the shelter at the Arboretum. Board Chair Art Smith called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were: Board Chair Art Smith; and Board Members Rollie Isaacson, Tony Dorschner, and Mark Smith. Also present were Ex-Officio Members: Parks and Recreation Director Tom Farnsworth; Park Superintendent Tom Moore; and Commissioner Vona Johnson.

Motion by Rollie, second by Tony to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2020, meeting as presented. The motion carried. Motion by Mark, second by Rollie to approve the proposed meeting agenda, with the addition of discussion of the community orchard. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *Tour of the Arboretum.* Moore led the Board on a guided tour of the Arboretum. He pointed out the 12 new trees that have been planted, and the 30 new shrubs that have been planted. He also pointed out where future tree plantings would take place. The plan is to have at least 3 of each type of native tree and shrub in place at the Arboretum. Because of cost, the tree plantings will be phased in over several years. The new signs will be updated as trees and shrubs are planted. The plan, in order to make sure the shrubs survive the deer and rabbits, is to put protective fencing around the shrubs.
2. *Arboretum pollinator/butterfly garden progress report.* As part of the tour of the Arboretum, Moore also showed the group what had been done with the pollinator/butterfly garden. Although most of the plantings are from seed, Moore pointed out that twenty-five native grasses and 16 narrow-leaf coneflowers had been planted in the pollinator/butterfly garden area. The pollinator/butterfly garden is a long-term project that will take some time to get established.
3. *James Likness Memorial Tree update.* Art reported that the Likness family has been notified of the plan for a memorial tree planting, and have been asked to coordinate the planting through Farnsworth's office.
4. *Wally Thomsen Memorial Tree Update.* Art reported that the Thomsen family has been notified of the plan for a memorial tree planting, and have been asked to coordinate the planting through Farnsworth's office.

NEW BUSINESS:

5. *Flag Pole at the Arboretum.* Mark had asked whether a flag pole could be located at the Arboretum to fly a “Tree City USA” flag. After some discussion, it was decided to put off making a final decision until a later date. Farnsworth suggested that if a flag pole was placed at the Arboretum, it could be delayed so that the expenditure could be made from next year’s budget. There was also discussion about possibly having the flag pole be funded as a memorial.
6. *Tour new Storm Shelter/Community Room.* The meeting moved from the Arboretum to the new storm shelter/community room at Griffin Park. Farnsworth showed the group around the new building. The landscaping will be completed in the near future.
7. *Informational Updates.*
 - Art reported that he had recently had a conversation with Deseree Corrales about the community orchard. A new contractor has been hired to finish the shed/shelter. The trees are still in good shape.
 - Farnsworth reported that the dog park organizers met recently with the Park and Recreation Board. The fund-raising has slowed down. Only about half the trees for the buffer have been sponsored. According to Farnsworth, the organizers are hoping for a fall planting. Farnsworth has been encouraging the group to take advantage of some grant opportunities available through Rachel’s office.

Depending on the need, there may not be a Board meeting in June. If there is a meeting, it would be held on June 23rd. Farnsworth and Art will keep the group updated on that subject. There being no further business, Chair Art Smith adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:



Mark Smith, Arbor Board Secretary