

City of Pierre
Arbor Board Minutes
Tuesday, October 22, 2019

The October 2019 meeting of the City of Pierre Arbor Board was held at the City Hall Prairie meeting room. Board Chair Art Smith called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. 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; Park Superintendent Tom Moore; Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator Rachel Ormseth; and Commissioner Vona Johnson.

Motion by Rollie, second by Adam to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019, meeting as presented. Motion carried. Motion by Adam, second by Rollie to approve the meeting agenda with the addition of Arboretum Maintenance Update in “Old Business” and Bird Feeding and Arboretum Map to “New Business.” Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *City Hall property tree plantings.* The first phase of the project was the planting of trees. Tom Moore reported that 22 trees have been planted. There are a variety of species, including: elm, locust, pine and maple. The second phase includes the landscaping and planting of bushes, perennials, etc. That work will take place in the spring.
2. *Community Orchard Open House.* Art reported on the Community Orchard Open House that took place on October 15th. According to Art, “the orchard is looking fantastic.” He indicated that the shed is quite substantial, and very sturdily built. Because of bad weather on the date of the open house, there were not many visitors. It was reported that the city has done some pruning, trimming and other maintenance, some in the orchard and mostly on the outside towards the city park shop and towards the proposed dog park area. The trees in the orchard will need pruning and trimming. Rollie suggested that perhaps a training session on fruit tree pruning and trimming could be held to not only get the trimming done at the orchard, but to also give others information on how to properly trim their own trees.
3. *Arboretum Maintenance Update.* Art passed on to Tom Moore that the local Master Gardener group may be interested in helping with the development of the pollinator, butterfly and hummingbird areas at the Arboretum.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. *2020 Board Positions/Vacancy Review.* Tom Farnsworth included information in the meeting packet showing the appointment/reappointment dates for all the

Board members. The second terms for Art Smith and Tony Dorschner expire in January 2020.

2. *Dog Park Tree Planting Plan.* By way of information, Tom Farnsworth noted that the concerns that this Board had with the planting of Eastern Red Cedar at the proposed dog park were passed along to the dog park planning committee, and were heeded. With that in mind, this Board recommends that the dog park planning committee consider mixed ages of trees, with a variety of species.
3. *DE Tree Removal.* Tom Moore reported that his department would be starting next week to remove DE-infested trees around the city. Currently, there are 25 trees marked for removal.
4. *Bird Feeding at the Arboretum.* The Board is once again planning to feed the birds at the Arboretum. Mark will make contact with Dave Kruger to find out when the seed will be available. Mark will take the feeding duties for November. Volunteers for future months can sign up at the November Board meeting.
5. *Arboretum Map.* Tom Farnsworth indicated that the supply of Arboretum maps is getting low, and that a new printing should be considered. That discussion morphed into a discussion about updating the map, which extended into a discussion of whether updates to the Arboretum needed to be considered. The decision at this time is that after the beginning of the new year, a plan should be developed to update and improve the Arboretum, to include: replacing species that have died, including those damaged by the flood; updating/replacing the signage around the Arboretum; creating a timetable to replace the ash trees in the Arboretum; creating a new Arboretum map; etc. It was also suggested that Dave Kruger be invited to be a part of the planning group. Tom Farnsworth will make contact with Dave to see if he is interested.

There being no further business, Chair Art Smith adjourned the meeting at 1:04 pm.

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

Respectfully Submitted:



Mark Smith, Arbor Board Secretary