

**Forest Board Minutes      March 10, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Michael Blum, City Forester Ryan Lewis, Leah Netherland, Shirley Robben, Gary Robben, Sarah Hitt, Aaron Morris, Mayor Tony Williams, recorder Marie Eff

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Approval of the March 2020 minutes was deferred.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Aaron Morris is our newest Board member. Welcome!

Michael designed an excel sheet (in drop box) that will track when homeowners replant a tree on their ROW. The sheet will be updated and monitored by the code officer, forester, board chair and mayor. A replacement tree must be planted within one year. If a homeowner states refusal to replace a ROW tree the code officer will be notified. And, if a tree is removed without a permit, an excel sheet will be initiated.

Leah would like to continue giving tree tours to homeowners for tree selection. Ryan will inform the homeowners of this option and notify Leah when a homeowner expresses interest.

**FORESTER REPORT:** This winter Ryan pruned 127 park trees (up to 10 inch in diameter) and 30 large ROW trees. Next winter we may need to contract out for the largest trees.

Ryan planted 20 trees, most of them on the country club ROW. Planting was much easier in the prepped sites. If we do a fall planting we should find a nursery with quality starts; bare root trees may be better.

Nuisance trees will be addressed in May.

Ryan will talk to the condos and the country club about additional planting.

**BUDGET UPDATE:** We've spent \$9,000.00 with \$30,000.00 remaining. A water spigot will be installed in Robin Park for \$5,000.00. Forester bills are pending.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Wren Park tree signage will be installed this spring.

The Board would like to meet quarterly rather than monthly. Tony will see that the ordinance reflects this change.

Michael announced that in June he will resign his chair but remain on the Board. A new chairperson will be selected by then.

The ROW inventory on drop box will help guide selection for new trees.

Based on Shirley's suggestions we will create a brochure for homeowners explaining the Board's mission and why trees are so important. Michael will compose the literature this summer.

**WORK DAY:** To be arranged by email.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 6:30pm at City Hall or on Zoom.

SIGNATURE OF CHAIRPERSON: Michael Blum DATE: 12/14/21

SIGNATURE OF MAYOR: Tony Williams DATE: 12/14/21

Sarah Hitt 12-14-21