

Vermillion City Tree Board

Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2019

Present: Rich Holland, Jim Goblirsch, Ryan Baedke, Pete Jahn, Aaron Baedke, Cylie Hanson

Jim Goblirsch opened the meeting.

Old Business:

Minutes were reviewed from last meeting, discussion was had, and members in attendance were altered to include Aaron Baedke.

Goblirsch gave update on the on the Urban and Community Forestry grant application, the grant was denied due to the size of the trees being planted in the tree nursery, he will apply again next time a similar grant opportunity is offered.

R. Baedke gave an update that the COV Tree City USA application was submitted, it was approved and the COV will be awarded Tree City USA status for the 34 year. Nate Steel from USD was not in attendance so no report on Tree Campus application.

Holland gave update on Petersen and said he is not able to serve on the board at this time and the City should find a replacement. Goblirsch noted the John Prescott (approved absence) was aware of the situation and approved the suggestion on putting the "Expression of Interest" form on the COV website to seek a new member.

New Business:

Goblirsch shared with the group about a phone call from Dale Anderson from the SD Dept. of Agriculture about placing EAB and Japanese Beetle traps within city limits for the summer of 2019.

Jahn gave an update on Ash trees that were being culled throughout the city; he has a plan to remove a certain percentage each year. Offered the idea to the group that an "educational session" might be a good thing to offer to the public concerning EAB. Group discussion was held and came to a conclusion it would be a good idea to host one in late April. Goblirsch will call the SD Dept of Agriculture to see if they could send someone to assist with this.

Goblirsch shared with the group about city staff reviewing the COV approved tree list. Since the list was published 4 years ago, new information has become available on tree species and now would be a good time to update the list- adding some new varieties and removing others.

Future items to be discussed:

Goblirsch and Jahn spoke to the group looking into establishing ordinances concerning transporting EAB infected wood, permit to treat boulevard ash trees, and what type of EAB treatment methods will be allowed. This topic was tabled for the next meeting.

Goblirsch passed out the Re-tree Vermillion information that was used last year, discussion was held if changes were warranted, no were noted, staff will plan on updating information and dates, and what type of tree will be offered for 2019.

Goblirsch shared with the group that Arbor Day is April 26th, 2019. Details on what type of tree, planting location, and time of event will be worked on by staff and presented at the next meeting.

Other business:

Nate Steel from USD was not able to make the meeting so no campus information was shared.

Goblirsch shared with the group information about H SD House Bill 1120 concerning an Act to appropriate funds for health and resilience. He will monitor the bill to see if money becomes available to communities.

Next scheduled meeting will be scheduled for March 13th 2019 at City Hall.

Meeting adjourned.