

Vermillion City Tree Board

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 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, no changes offered.

Goblirsch gave update on the updating the current approved tree list for the City of Vermillion. Approved tree list were passed around for other communities in South Dakota, discussion was held however no decisions were made at this time. Staff will continue to work on the list

Jahn gave an update on a proactive approach on using a City ordinance to help ease the stress when the EAB is found within 15 miles of the City limits. Items included in the ordinance would include the treatment of Ash trees, transportation of the wood, and cutting of Ash trees. Staff will continue to work on this.

Goblirsch gave a quick update on replacing the Community Member open seat on the COV Tree Board, Expression of Interest forms were on the COV website and at the time of the meeting one individual has completed the form. If no others apply Goblirsch will contact the individual and confirm interest in the position. Prescott (absent) and Goblirsch had previously addressed this item and Prescott will present the name of the individual for approval at the March 18th City Council meeting

New Business:

Goblirsch passed out the Re-tree Vermillion information that was used last year, discussion was held if changes were warranted, none were noted, staff will plan on updating information and dates. The species of tree was decided to be a Espresso Kentucky Coffee tree, this will be a good boulevard tree if planted there. Staff will work with local tree vendors on availability and pricing, if none are found a alternate tree will be chosen from the COV approved tree list.

Goblirsch brought up the topic about having a speaker brought in to discuss the EAB and how it will affect the community. The group thought it would be great to offer this to the public and have question and answer time after it. Goblirsch will contact the Community Urban Forestry Division to work on a speaker. Holland also suggested a FAQ sheet available at City Hall or on the City Website that citizens could pick up for more information about tree. The group decided the ideal dates for the presentation would be the two weeks following Arbor Day.

Future items to be discussed:

Goblirsch and Baedke shared with the group about the Arbor Day celebration. The Date would be April 26th at noon in Prentis Park. Staff will work with a local nursery to select a tree and have it spaded in. Baedke will work with the elementary school to get kids there and work on publicity for the event.

Other business:

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

Next scheduled meeting will be scheduled for March 27th 2019 at City Hall.

Meeting adjourned.