

Thursday, January 7, 2021

Tree Board Minutes for January, 2021

The January meeting was called to order-Mike Conway
Meeting was held virtually, led by Mike.

Mike Conway, Joe Daugherty, Pat Flannery, Sarah Froelich, Kathleen Laurin, Julie Ochs, Sally Soderlund attended. (Pam Spoor encountered a technical problem logging in, she was unable to attend)

October Minutes ~ Sally Soderlund

Tree Board members had been sent the minutes and approved.

Treasury ~ Kathleen Laurin reported

General Fund Balance (from the city of Park Hills budget)

\$5,859.00

Reserve Fund Balance (from Tree Board's Plant-A-Tree Program)

\$4,525.69

It was noted that the 14 trees planted as part of the lower Jackson Road project were paid for from Park Hills' Road Fund.

Tree Board Budget ~ Mike Conway presented

Kathleen Laurin, Sarah Froelich commented

Mike would like to ask Park Hills for a larger annual allocation for the Tree Board. He listed 3 reasons an increase is warranted:

1. Urban Canopy will be an invaluable asset for the city and residents.
2. Our ongoing loss of trees and tree canopy is/will adversely impact the city's health and ambiance.
3. Our budget has remained the same for years.

It would benefit the city and our program to raise our allocation:

\$2,200 (Urban Canopy) + \$1,000 (Canopy Tree Replacement) + \$1,000

Consumer Price Index = \$4,200 (minimum).

Sarah Froelich commented that this is a good time to develop a proposal for City Counsel prior to the approval of the city's budget.

Kathleen Laurin volunteered to work with Mike on a proposal.

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Spring Seedling Program ~ Joe Daugherty

The selection for this Spring can be found in the October Tree Board minutes. Joe is planning for the date to coincide with the Easter Egg Hunt. If the hunt is cancelled we will hold it (again) at Trolley Park Bus Stop.

Plant A Tree ~ Pat Flannery

Pat reported that 24 trees were planted this Fall. There were multiple Dogwood, also single species including Locust and Pine. One resident ordered 5 trees and a few trees cost the program more than the apportioned amount. Ammons provided an Armstrong Gold Maple for Lower Jackson. Baetens planted all trees. The cost of the trees was \$3,391, Planting cost was \$2,471. \$2,000 was collected from residents. The cost for this program will be raised to \$125 a tree this year.

Plant A Tree App Update & Pay Pal Option ~ Sarah Froelich

After a few finishing touches were discussed, Sarah announced that she would post the freshly completed new app. Sarah noted that the extra cost to implement Pay Pal is not attractive to the city at this time. Mike acknowledged and thanked Pat Flannery and Julie Alig for their work accepting applications and collecting payments.

Urban Canopy ~ Mike Conway

Mike will check to see if Rachel and Jenny have been paid.

2021(?)Tree City USA ~ Mike Conway

Park Hills has now been a Tree City for 11 consecutive years. Mike's application detailing our programs secured our standing. His application included our Seedling giveaway, Plant A Tree program, Jackson Road reforestation and our Tree per Capita numbers.

City Council Update-Grant Update ~ Joe Daugherty & Pam Spoor

Joe Daugherty and Pam Spoor's efforts have secured a \$5,000 grant from Duke Energy for invasive removal and tree planting behind the Audubon Forest development. Joe welcomes input on tree planting placement. Joe is still in need of a grant writing partner volunteer.

Adjournment-Attendees agreed