

## MARION TREE BOARD MINUTES

April 8, 2015, 7:00 A.M.  
Thomas Park Safe Room

ROLL CALL: Chair Scott Hansen, Mark Sanderson, Pam Munro, Marilyn Tormey

ABSENT: Eddie Begley, John Hager, Sunshine McDonald

STAFF: Mike Carolan, Mike Cimprich, Darcie Coberly

GUESTS: None

It was shared that Board Member Eddie Begley suffered a stroke on April 2. His current health condition was unknown.

New Board Member Marilyn Tormey was introduced. Marilyn is a Marion resident and is employed by Rockwell.

### Minutes

Moved by Sanderson and seconded by Munro to approve the March 11, 2015, Tree Board minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

### Current Budget

The current balance is \$7,073. The MidAmerican Trees Please grant for \$1,000, and the Trees Forever/Alliant Energy Branching Out grant for \$5,250 were both received.

### Public Input

There was no public input.

### 176 10<sup>th</sup> Street Right of Way Tree Removal Request

Cimprich was in contact with homeowner Brandon Sherbaum who indicated that he was not ready yet to present his garage project plans to the Board. Sherbaum is working with the Engineering Department to finalize details and plans to attend the May meeting.

### Arbor Day April 24

There will be two trees planted at the new Marion Police Department Headquarters facility on the north side of the property. Cimprich has been working with Lieutenant Rich Holland for placement of the trees. Hansen asked about planting evergreens. Cimprich said there are evergreens on the south side of the property and some oaks and hackberry trees around the building. Two elm trees from Evergreen have been selected for the Noon planting. Mayor Bouska will be asked to read the Arbor Day Proclamation and proper tree planting methods will be demonstrated.

### Tree Board By-Laws

Board members reviewed by-laws of the Park Board and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). Tormey felt the BPAC by-laws were detailed and spelled everything out. Hansen agreed that they were comprehensive. The Board directed

staff to draft appropriate by-laws for the Tree Board based on the BPAC by-laws for review and approval at the next meeting.

#### Sustainable Urban Forestry Assistance and Training

The second session was held on March 26 at Lowe Park. Carolan stated it was a good meeting with a lot of information presented. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20 from 9 a.m. to Noon at Lowe Park and will continue with tree identification and then move outside to plant trees.

#### Significant Ash Tree Inventory Update

Although the inventory is incomplete, quotes can still be received for ash tree treatments, so Cimprich is putting together information to solicit bids. The ideal time for injection treatments will be May.

#### 2015 Tower Terrace Tree Planting

Trees have been ordered for the Tower Terrace tree planting project between 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. There will be 40 trees planted in the north and south right of way areas. These trees will be funded by the Branching Out grant and from the Urban Forestry fund. The Marion High School's One Day In May volunteer service project will provide about 30 kids to assist with planting trees on May 11. Alliant Energy has listed this project as a high-priority tree planting and will have representatives on site at 9 am for a photo opportunity with the Mayor Bouska and Trees Forever staff.

Cimprich will be ordering watering bags to use for the trees planted. The Department has been watering trees for the first two years after planting and this will reduce staff time for this task. The bags can stay on the trees from spring to fall. Although the bags do not need to be removed in the winter, Cimprich would like to remove them in the fall to help extend their life. Tormey asked how long the bags will last. Cimprich replied three years depending on weather conditions.

#### Right of Way Tree Issues

1585 A Avenue: Request to remove tree in right of way. Hansen said this property owner presented the same request two or three years ago and the Board denied the request. The property owner was not in attendance so no action was taken.

2530 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue: Request to remove tree in right of way. Hansen looked at the tree and does not feel it is causing damage to the driveway as claimed by the property owner. Moved by Munro and seconded by Hansen to deny the request to remove a tree in the right of way at 2530 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue. All in favor, motion carried.

#### Receive and File

Receive and file Trees Forever Branching Out grant award letter.

Receive and file letter of request from Bill Beach, 1850 10<sup>th</sup> Street, requesting four 3" caliber trees for his property. Beach indicated that the 2014 10<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk project removed five trees to accommodate grading, sidewalk installation, and driveway replacement. Munro who also resides at this property requested two maple trees and two black hills spruce evergreens. Carolan mentioned that the Board has

denied requests for maples to be planted in the past. Hansen felt the request for evergreens was fine, but the caliber of tree normally planted is 1 ½" to 2". If the trees were granted by the Board, they would be funded from the Urban Forestry fund and would be planted by the property owner. The Board will review the request next month and with no taken action.

Other

None.

Board Discussion Time

None.

Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 7:00 a.m. at the Thomas Park Maintenance Facility.

Moved by Sanderson seconded by Munro to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 a.m. All in favor, motion carried.

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Mark Sanderson, Vice Chair