



MEETING MINUTES

TREE BOARD

REGULAR MEETING
OAKDALE TREE BOARD
City of Oakdale
March 21, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Oakdale Tree Board of the City of Oakdale was held Tuesday, January 17, 2022 at the Oakdale City Hall, Oakdale, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Nick Kantola.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. CALL OF ROLL

Members Present: Nick Kantola
Marg Sagstetter
Glen Giacoletto
Michael Bender
Dallas Pierson
Mike Saarela
Cathie Schreifels

Also Present: City Forester – Tree Board Staff Liaison, Loren Cota,
Mayor, Kevin Zabel
WCMG Liaison, Deb Moeller

*There was not a council liaison present.

Quorum Present: YES NO

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Nick Kantola asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the January 17th meeting and if so, do we have any addition or changes to the minutes or can we approve them? Marge Sagstetter stated there is an error on the date for the tree giveaway on page 3 at the top. It states April 28th, it should be April 29th. The official announcement at the end of the packet is correct.

Nick Kantola asked for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Dallas Pierson moved the motion; Marge Sagstetter seconded the motion.



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Ayes 7

Abstain 0

Nays 0

V. TREE BOARD REVIEW

a. OLD BUSINESS

i. Arbor Day

Loren Cota projected the City Website and walked thru the navigation to the Arbor Day Tree Give-Away page. Information such as tree types, registration information etc. for this event can be found on this page.

He mentioned tree bags will be for sale this year. Payment can be made by mailing a check or coming to the Public Works office and making payment by cash, check or credit card.

A member from the board inquired if any payments for the tree bags would be accepted at the event? Loren's comment was "no", they will only be handed out at the event after they have been paid for in advance.

Cathie Schreifels mention that Larry Eberhard had moved his shredding event to the week before the tree give-away so there shouldn't be anyone driving thru the line asking is this is where the shredding event was.

Marge Sagstetter asked Loren what would be done with the extra tree bags if there were to be any. Loren intends to carry them over to next year or they could possibly be sold after the event at public works for anyone that forgot to purchase in advance by wants one. Proof of receiving a tree would need to be checked.

ii. Spring Planting

Scheduled for Saturday May 6th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Meet at Goose Pond Park. Planting will be on the north side of 40th street. Loren spoke with the manager of the apartment complex. She will let the tenants know. Volunteers can sign up thru Loren by email or phone. There are approximately 25 to 35 trees to be planted. If they don't all get planted on May 6th, public works crew member will finish planting the remainder. Holes will be pre-dug. The plan is to plant, water, fill the hole with dirt and cover with mulch. Staking may or may not be done depending on how much time there is to get everything done. Mike bender inquired if having the holes ahead of time will be a liability issue? Loren said he plans to cover the holes with plywood and place cones on top.

This will be done on Friday, the day before the event.

Trees available were: Boulevard Linden, Showy Mountain Ash, River Birch, Ohio Buckeye, Blue Beach, Hackberry, Kentucky Coffee tree, Ironwood, Swamp White Oak, Bur Oak, Northern Acclaim, Honey locust and Patriot Elm. Including or excluding any of these species can be decided by the Tree Board. Marge Sagstetter inquired if any of these may not be appropriate for planting on the boulevard because of the width of the tree or how high they need to be pruned? Loren replied, "They are all fairly good". Mike Bender stated the Linden and the River Birch are Japanese beetle magnets. Nick Kantola added, "the Elm's too. In drought conditions, we tend to see less Japanese beetles, therefore, it hasn't been too bad. Loren commented that because there are a large number of species of the trees, there won't be too many of any kind planted. If anyone has a preference, he can include or exclude any of the trees. Marge's only comment was on the Linden,



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stating: “When they flower they’re an early flower for pollinators. Marge lives across the street from Hope church and they have a row of nine Lindens which look pretty bad some years so she would like the Linden’s limited to just a couple so it’s not a huge magnet for the beetles. Mike Bender said the River Birch is a beautiful tree but one of the ones the beetles like. Nick Kantola said he would be more concerned if it were a White Oak. Glen Giacoletto said he hasn’t seen any beetles in his River Birch. The planting will be rain or shine. It would only be cancelled if there is severe weather.

Meeting location is at Goose Pond Park as there is parking there. There is not a pavilion but Loren will bring tents for shelter. Lunch to be served at 11:00 AM. Jersey Mikes will be ordered as it has worked out good in the past. Loren will try to accommodate for special need diets. 6131 40th St N is the address of Goose Pond Park. Trees will be bare-root, 5 to 7 feet tall. Loren said he has not been able to get any Evergreens. He told Mike, if he would like to talk to Baileys about getting some Balsam Firs, as he has been trying to get some for so long without any success. If not, he may try to get Norway Spruce next year.

VI. OTHER

a. Board Member Updates

Marge highly recommends for anyone interested to attend the Shade Tree short course. She attended it last week at Bethel University and said it was so fun, exciting and there was so much information shared. It is an awesome, educational event for all kinds of stuff going on with trees and the climate change this year.

Another update from the Master Gardeners...Anna Barker and I are putting together a tree project, getting a team of people, all who are interested in trees. We're all already independently doing some different things regarding trees but we're not sharing that knowledge as a group. We are trying to bring in more people into this tree focused initiative. It's going to be coming out as an interest group that other Master Gardeners can sign up for in Washington County. That should help us disseminate and get more volunteerism, more advocates and more people taking the tree care advisor course or the tree steward course at the University. We want to share it with within our 160 +/- person organization so I'm hoping that will drive more people to you. Especially with the climate change issues to get those people who really care about the trees to rally together so that's our continued growth.

Marge inquired about the trees that were planted at the Bark Park. Nick Kantola stated one didn't survive but the rest looked ok. Loren said the last time he looked at them (last fall) they all seemed to be thriving. Marge suggested replanting if any didn't survive so they can all grow at the same pace. Loren said he has the trees for it if the Tree Board wants to get together and plant them.

b. Council Liaison Update(s)

Nick Kantola moved the Council Liaison update up on the agenda right after the approval of the January minutes approval.



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Mayor Zabel stated there isn't a lot from the City Council to report as most of the work being done is administrative. Polishing up some ordinance changes, approving liquor and garden center licenses, moving the annual street project along. Mayor Zabel mentioned the upcoming Tree Board events to the EMC and is looking forward to the Tree Give-Away event. He followed up by taking any questions, which there were none.

c. WCMG Liaison Update(s)

Deb did not have an update to report. Loren asked Deb if she had put up a sign-up sheet for volunteers. Deb responded that she did.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Marge Sagstetter and seconded by Cathie Schreifels to adjourn the regular meeting of the tree board.

Ayes 7

Abstain 0

Nays 0

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Ritchie, Recording Secretary

Link to YouTube recording of the March 21, 2023 Tree Board Meeting:

[Tree Board Meeting - March 21, 2023 - YouTube](#)