

ANCHORAGE FORESTRY BOARD
April 5, 2021 - Via Zoom

ATTENDEES Lucy Spickard, Chair; Jan Ruzich; Nancy Wilkinson; Adele McCoy; Paul Wessel; Diane McAllister; Ann Stivers; Donnie Walker; Reneé Major, City Administrator; Andrea Hanlon, City Forester

MARCH MINUTES Paul moved to approve the March minutes; Adele seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

FORESTER REPORT

March permits There were 9 permits for a total of 26 trees, of which 2 were Ash trees. One property was approved for the removal of 9 trees.

March fines and appeals There were no fines or appeals.

Status of City issues The Civic Club will hold a Spring Fling event on April 23rd at Wagner Park. Andrea cautioned about the proximity to trees of designated parking for food trucks and other vehicles. Jan, who is a member of the Civic Club Board, will relay the concerns to Civic Club members; Lucy will follow up with her.

HAZARDOUS TREES Work on hazardous trees continues. The stumps along KY Route 146 will be ground by Public Works. Reneé explained that the agreement with the contractor includes his keeping the wood as a factor in his pricing.

ARBOR DAY

Review of 2021 event Lucy thanked Board members who volunteered to unload or distribute trees. All trees were given away. The Tree Giveaway was conducted smoothly, thanks to the scheduling of residents' appointments for pick-up. The tree care and dogwood handouts were well-received by residents who picked up trees.

Possible revisions for 2022 Board members felt that the giveaway should be conducted similarly in the future, although more appointments per hour could be managed. The Board will develop a plan to incentivize attendance at the evening program in lieu of the somewhat chaotic past practice wherein program attendees were allowed to pick up their trees immediately following the program. Board members will be able to request and claim their trees on the day when the trees are delivered. The Board will consider several different nurseries next year before ordering the trees.

Tree offerings Discussion was held about which trees should be ordered next year. Lucy will retain the list of suggestions made by board members for consideration when the Canopy Campaign and Arbor Day trees are ordered.

OLD BUSINESS

Dedication ceremony for tree honoring Erwin Booth A brief ceremony to dedicate the tree planted to honor Erwin Booth, retired Anchorage Police Officer and later Director of Public Works, will be held at 10:00 AM on May 3 following the monthly Forestry Board meeting. Reneé will check with Booth about his availability. Lucy will invite City officials and staff; residents will be invited via an announcement in *The Anchor Age*. Lucy will make the presentation. Gary Burkhead, Director of Public Works, has the plaque for the tree. Donuts and coffee will be served.

Ridge Road pruning and clean-up project Jan has checked that the flags and markers identifying the work to be performed by Public Works are still present. She has updated some of them and will email the updated list to Gary Burkhead. Stumps will be ground after the hazardous trees project is completed.

Leaf collection After discussion with Jeff Miller (Miller Mowing and Landscaping), who provides leaf collection for the City of Lyndon, Paul has recommended that a leaf collection

program is not feasible for Anchorage because of the City's large lot sizes, quantity of leaves, number of fences, dead-end and narrow streets, etc.

Chipping program Reneé explained that, for liability reasons, it would be illegal for residents to use a City-owned chipper. She referenced All In One Tree Service, the contractor used by the City of Goshen for its chipping program; Paul will contact the company to inquire about its chipping service.

Landscaping at cell tower Nancy expressed concern that some of the plantings had looked unhealthy. Reneé explained that the planters encountered difficulties when planting, and that although the plants were watered by Public Works, some did not survive. Those plants will be replaced this spring with different species more likely to survive in the location.

NEW BUSINESS

May Board meeting The Forestry Board will meet outdoors on the City Hall lawn on May 3. Board members are to bring lawn chairs. The ceremony to dedicate Booth's tree will follow at 10 AM.

City of Anchorage website and newsletter The City's website and newsletter are being redesigned. They will include photos taken by Jan for the Forestry Board calendar and of City events.

TREE CITY/GROWTH AWARD Anchorage has won the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA and Growth Award for 2020.

THE ANCHOR AGE NEWSLETTER The May newsletter will include a previously-written article by Angie Chick, City Receptionist and Clerk, about the Tree City USA and Growth Awards; announcement of the tree dedication in honor of Erwin Booth; and information about protecting trees against the 17-year cicadas expected this spring.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT Lucy gave the report.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

NEXT MEETING Monday, May 3, 8:45 AM, outdoors at City Hall. Board members will bring lawn chairs. Dedication of the tree in honor of Erwin Booth will take place at 10:00 AM.