

**ANCHORAGE FORESTRY BOARD
MARCH 7, 2022 - CITY HALL**

ATTENDEES - Chair Jan Ruzich, Nancy Wilkinson, Paul Wessel, Lucy Spickard, Ellen Welham, City Administrator Reneé Major, Public Works Director Gary Burkhead, City Forester Andrea Hanlon, Tyleen Stout

CALL TO ORDER - Jan called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM.

REVIEW OF MINUTES - Copies of the February minutes were distributed for review; January minutes had been distributed previously. Paul made a motion to accept both months' minutes; Lucy seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

FORESTER REPORT (Andrea Hanlon)

- **Permits:** There were 6 permits in February for removal of a total of 25 trees, of which 4 were Ash. One of the permits included 12 trees.
- **Fines and appeals:** There were no fines or appeals in February.
- **Status of City issues:** No report

ARBOR DAY (March 23: Program at 6 PM and Give-away to follow; March 27: Give-away at 12-1:30 PM)

- The flyer with information about the trees offered has been included in the March newsletter.
- Paul has obtained the permit for the banner, which is ready in the Public Works building.
- The trees will be delivered on March 21st. Board members who will assist with the delivery will be notified when the truck has arrived.
- Jan reviewed the order of events to occur during the March 23rd program and give-away.
- Board members discussed checklist and recordkeeping needs. Angie Chick, Receptionist, will prepare residents' lists for the check-in and give-away tables.
- The speaker will be Dr. Bhatnagar of the U of L's Christina Brown Envirome Institute; he is expected to speak about the relationship of the environment and human health. Ellen has contacted his assistant to confirm Dr. Bhatnagar's availability, topic, and media needs and is awaiting a reply.
- Jan will prepare "sandwich boards" for the give-away.
- Ellen will create order forms with which residents will request their trees at the give-away. These will be given to residents at the program check-in table and will serve as proof of attendance at the program.
- Board members volunteered for various jobs at the program and the two giveaway dates.
- Jobe's Evergreen Fertilizer Spikes will be given to program attendees in commemoration of 150 years of Arbor Day. Board members assembled gift bags for the spikes, attaching explanatory tags that Jan had created.
- Paul made a motion to award an honorarium of \$100.00 to the organization of Dr. Bhatnagar's choice. The motion passed unanimously. Ellen will confirm the full title of the organization with Dr. Bhatnagar's assistant.
- As a pandemic safety precaution, refreshments will not be served at the program.
- Jan expects to receive the name of the winner of the school's auction item allowing priority selection of give-away trees.
- Mayor Neil Ramsey will sign the Tree City USA proclamation at the City Council meeting and will present it at the program.
- We will offer tree guards (\$7 each) and hydrators (\$19 each) at the give-away. Payment must be in cash or check only. We will make available a donation box as well.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Park Road area project** (Lucy, Nancy, Jan, Reneé, Diane) - Lucy presented the committee's ideas for removals and planting in the area. Andrea is reviewing and will consult with the landscape architect.
- **Invasive plants project** (Lucy, Jan, Reneé) - The committee has reviewed seven states' ordinances concerning invasive plants such as bamboo. They are working to modify criteria implemented by four of these ordinances and are developing a proposal for an Anchorage ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS - Jan will follow up with other members who have not yet signed up for committees and projects.

TREE CITY USA and GROWTH AWARD

- Our Arbor Day event and the tree spike give-away will count toward this year's points.
- Anchorage has received its 33rd Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA award and its 12th Growth Award.

CALENDAR PROJECT (Jan)

- Jan is looking into the possibility of having Anchorage School artists' work featured in next year's calendar.
- Jan would like to create a library of photos from local "photographers" that could be used for future calendars.

THE ANCHOR AGE NEWSLETTER for April (Ellen)

The April newsletter will cover the Tree City USA and Growth Awards, instructions for the tree fertilizer spikes that will be given away, and brochures available at City Hall regarding planting of new trees.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT - Jan gave the City Council report.

ADJOURNMENT - Jan adjourned the meeting at 10:00 AM.

NEXT MEETING: April 4, 2022 - 8:45 AM - City Hall

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Welham