

Anchorage Forestry Board Meeting Minutes, May 5, 2018, City Hall

Call to order 8:55 AM

Attendees: Ellen Welham, Nancy Wilkinson, Donnie Walker, Lucy Spickard, Nan Dryden, Erwin Booth, Renee Major, and Jan Ruzich.

Minutes: Minutes for March and April were unanimously approved, after motion by Nancy and second by Nan.

City Forester report:

—**Permits and Fines:** Total of 25 April permits, four were Ash. There were no fines or appeals.

City issues:

—**Wagner Park**—Connie O’Connell – Planting the Police Station

—**Plantings** around police station are needed. Nancy Wilkinson will work on the committee. City Public Works will do the planting once a plan has been accepted. Landscape architect plans cost \$200. Cost of plants yet to be determined.

—**Plantings** around the cell tower area are on hold until old tower is removed, etc...

—**Walking paths** will be repaired and replaced. The newly built paths will be widened. Evergreen Road from Valley View south to Anchorage trail will have a walking trail. Ridge Road, by the school, from Bellwood to Walnut will be redone, as well as, and Old Harrods Creek Road from Owl Creek Lane to Somerhill Place on the left side.

—**City Forester responsibilities** include Monday appointments on tree related issues, consulting on city tree issues, issuing permits, determining the fines for areas she inspects for construction. She also advises the Forestry Board. Largest portion of Forestry Board budget is the City Forester’s salary.

Old Business:

—**Tree Give Away/Arbor Day:** Some of the Dogwoods from the free Tree Give Away have not thrived, whereas other Dogwoods are fine. We will not replace the free trees, but will advise the supplier and await his response. Donnie recommends lots of watering.

Bellewood : Lucy and Donnie spoke with Bellewood to see how we can partner. They welcome any partnership and are working on a willow vine huts project that needs fast growing plants to climb on trellis domes with tunnels leading between. They plan room for 15 kids to be under the vine hut. It’s an art/nature project in the Fall so it would come from our 2018 budget. We discussed what our input could be. Nan motioned to participate with the Bellewood Vine Wood hut project with an amount up to \$1000 requested from the city budget, which the proposal was unanimously approved. Renee will take the request to the city budget meeting this coming Monday. We discussed that it is likely the Anchorage garden clubs may participate also.

—**Wood chipper:** Paul is doing research on city wood chipper for tree removal. He will report back on the direction the city should go with the wood chipper. We will await Paul’s research and he may want to work on securing companies to do discounted work for residents. Podges Tree Service and Kentucky Tree are the two companies that have done great work for the city in the past. Residents routinely ask for recommendations from the city.

New Business:

—**Canopy Campaign:** Nancy recommends a spring planting session of Canopy Campaign to get white oaks and other oaks, which are more resistant to disease. Discussed moving Free Tree Give Away to Fall and Canopy Campaign to the Spring to take advantage of Spring plantings. We discussed getting a heavy banner to advertise the Canopy Campaign. We will talk to Andrea about timing and Canopy Campaign spring plantings next meeting.

—**Calendar:** Jan is asking about calendar feedback. Larger size of spaces, do a calendar instead of planner, size of calendar, paper stock, 300 ordered last year, etc. Jan will talk to Tom Chessler about prices, and options. Budget was approx. \$800 last year. Requesting \$1200.00 for calendar budget.

—**Tree Identification Software:** Lucy is researching the software, and attendance at annual conference is mandatory to train on the software. Forestry will ask for \$100 in budget for conference in Lexington once per year. Lucy will plan to attend this coming year. Ellen says Douglas Hills has a tree museum park where trees are labeled. Donnie shared an app that identifies a tree from a photo taken of a leaf. **Leafsnap** is a free mobile app. Also, **treebook** is a free app. We will research these apps and Lucy will gather our responses. We may put info about the apps in the newsletter?

—**Growth Award:** Lucy will work on this. We should have the points for the award with our programs.

—**City Council:** Report given by René

—**City Newsletter:** We can take a break on article submission for June or share the free tree identification app of our choice. Ellen will await feedback from Forestry Board members who have a chance to review the apps mentioned in the minutes.

Adjourned: 10:15 AM. **Next meeting:** June 4, 8:45 AM. Ellen may take June minutes in Nan’s absence.

May Minutes submitted by Nan Dryden.