

**WORKSHOP MEETING
OAKDALE TREE BOARD
City of Oakdale
January 15, 2019**

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Oakdale Tree Board of the City of Oakdale was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at the Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Avenue North, Oakdale, Minnesota. Chair Klein called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL - Unofficial

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| Chair: | Jane Klein |
| Members: | Diana Crea |
| | Nick Kantola |
| | Stan Karwoski |
| | Bill Rasmussen |
| | Mike Saarela |
| | Marge Sagsetter |
| | Cathie Schreifels |
| | Bob Stiglich |

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------|
| Absent | Colleen Swedberg, Council Representative |
| Also Present: | Loren Cota, City Forester |

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTIONS

DISCUSSION – REINSTATING MEETING MINUTES / BYLAWS

Chair Klein provided a quick overview of the Oakdale Tree Board Bylaws noting that this is a board rather than a commission but still functions as a commission. Oakdale Tree Board is a group made up of commissioners and citizens. The Oakdale Tree Board started in 1995 and functions include city tree plantings and preservation. Board will include up to 9 appointed members who will advise City Council on tree matters. All meetings are open to the public and will follow Robert's Rule of Order for procedures.

Forester Cota asked two questions on behalf of the city.

1. When did the Tree Board go from 6 members to 9 members? He believes it to be 2009-10 due to an old RCA.
2. Do honorary members have voting rights?

Chair Klein responded that voting is done after a detailed discussion and is unanimous so it would not make a big difference if honorary members voted.

Oakdale Tree Board Minutes
January 15, 2019
Page Two

It was noted that Bill Rasmussen will replace Diane Rasmussen and new Tree Board liaisons are City Forester, Loren Cota and Councilmember Colleen Swedberg. Chair Klein advised the board that meetings will now be recorded and typed into minutes. Updated rosters of 2019 City Council, Tree Board and Commissions were distributed.

OPEN FORUM

Turf to Prairie Project

Chair Klein would like to put this item on the agenda. Homeowner on Henslow and Stillwater Blvd. would like to work with Washington County and the Watershed District to do a prairie planting. They have asked for volunteers to help with planting. It is a public parcel owned by Washington County and currently has no trees. Chair Klein will contact Master Gardeners for volunteers and would like the Tree Board to contribute trees for reforestation. Forester Cota mentioned the city has three Burr Oak trees for the Tree Board to donate to the project. Watershed District will choose site for trees and Master Gardeners will help with planting flowers and prairie grass.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Arbor Day Flyer

The Paul Graske Arbor Day Tree Giveaway will include 50 of each of the following trees: Cannon Fir, Coffee Tree, Asian Pear, and Evergreen.

In response to the question if a business is allowed to get a free tree, Forester Cota responded that only residents may receive free trees. Chair Klein suggested residents donate trees to a business.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER (unknown) AND SECONDED BY MEMBER (unknown) TO APPROVE 50 EACH OF THE SELECTION OF TREES PRESENTED FOR THE 2019 ARBOR DAY GIVEAWAY.

| | | | |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Ayes | 9 | Abstain | 0 |
| Nays | 0 | Motion Carried | |

Streetscape Flyer – Oakfield Park, Phase II

Chair Klein confirmed Mr. Dean’s class is available to help again this year and Member Stiglich will help with food. Event is Saturday, May 4th and board is encouraged to attend and help if possible. Forester Cota stated the Tree Board budget balance is \$5000 after the tree giveaway. Chair Klein stated this project will in conjunction with a street project and will need to use money from the Tree Board budget. Last year’s project was originally over budget and

Oakdale Tree Board Minutes
January 15, 2019
Page Three

City Council was concerned. Forester Cota did receive a \$1000 grant last year from the Watershed District but will not this year. No shrubs are being planted this year so should stay within budget.

In response to the question which designs will be used, Chair Klein responded the plan from last year will be continued, repeating Design 1, then Design 2, for the length of the park along street.

Buckthorn Roundup Flyer

Chair Klein confirmed the date is Saturday, October 12th and Mr. Dean's class will volunteer. Member Stiglich will help with lunch and Forester Cota will choose location.

NEW BUSINESS

Tree City Recertification

Chair Klein stated that Oakdale has been at Tree City Recertification since 1995 and the total community forestry expenditures is \$183,869.52. This includes all day to day forestry concerns, Tree Board budget, plantings, round-ups and flyers. With a population of 28,073 it breaks down to \$6.55 per person to have trees and is comparable with other cities. Recertification application has been submitted.

Forester Cota stated that one boulevard tree is worth approximately \$18.00 of benefits (cooling, water uptake etc.) for a homeowner.

In response to the question asked regarding what the city receives with certification, Forester Cota replied that a flag is given to city and two signs that are placed on the north and south ends of the city.

Chair Klein reminded board that Oakdale Tree Board received the Lady Bird Johnson Award for roadside planting. Oakdale was nationally recognized and even a Jeopardy question!

Buckthorn Curbside Collection

Chair Klein reported that last year there were 32 curbside collections. This is included in the forestry budget. Chair Klein works at the winter markets and has been providing information at the booth and would like to include information regarding Emerald Ash Borer.

Emerald Ash Borer Update

Forester Cota mentioned that MDA has positively identified Emerald Ash Borer in Oakdale near 7th Street and Century Avenue.

In response to the question asked if residents receive a discount from Rainbow Tree Care, Forester Cota replied that he asked three companies for bids and only Rainbow responded so far. Their bid is \$5.25 per inch. Because cost is under \$25,000 he can go with one bid.

Oakdale Tree Board Minutes
January 15, 2019
Page Four

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER SCHREIFELS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER SAGSETTER TO HIRE RAINBOW TREE CARE TO TREAT AND REMOVE EMERALD ASH TREES IN OAKDALE AS NEEDED IN 2019.

Ayes 8 Abstain 1 (Nick Kantola)
Nays 0 Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS

Tree Trek Update

Forester Cota updated board on the progress of the Tree Trek. Tree Board has received a grant from the Lion's Club for tree identification. About half the tree have GPS and they are working on sticker identification. Member Sagsetter has offered to help with identification.

Buckthorn Removal

Member Rasmussen asked how much goats would cost. Forester Cota replied that Washington County has started a new goat program. Many questions still remain.

Member Karowski stated that goat program started in the Ravine Park but hasn't heard any future plans. It is fairly expensive and he is concerned the county cannot get the volunteers a city would be able to get.

Grant Writing

Chair Klein informed board of a DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant. It will work for the forestry department but was forwarded to Brian Bachmeier and Jeff Koesling in Parks Department.

Member Rasmussen asked a question regarding previous agenda item Emerald Ash Borer Update. How many trees are in area and is the disease coming from the west?

Forester Cota replied that the east side of Tanners has about 50 trees and two private trees have been identified. He has spoken to homeowner and trees might be treatable. They were originally identified by MDA driving by and noticed woodpecker activity. If infected they will lose leaves in summer.

Member Stiglich commented that trees along the parking lot at Transfiguration Church are looking pretty sparse.

Forester Cota replied that it was a bad summer for Ash trees and those trees were planted too deep and are stressed. He has sampled branches but no EAB evidence.

Member Kantola mentioned that signs of EAB will not show for 3-4 years after initial infestation occurs.

Oakdale Tree Board Minutes
January 15, 2019
Page Five

COMMUNICATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS

City Administrator Fischer has requested a meeting with Chair Klein, Forester Cota, and Sue Barry. Chair Klein asked board for questions or comments to share at the meeting.

Member Karwoski mentioned that Representative Leon Lillie is in charge of the Legacy Funding. County website has more information. Chair Klein will research.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Klein noted the following will be included on the March agenda:

- A. Arbor Day – Final Plans
- B. Streetscape – Final Plans
- C. Discuss EAB
- D. Winter Market Outreach Update. Chair Klein mentioned that she would like Forester Cota to appear on the Oakdale Update Show w/Frank Orsello.

Member Sagsetter asked for update regarding the Citizen Pruner Class. Forester Cota does not have an update and no class is scheduled at this time.

2019 MEETING DATES

March 12 – Regular Meeting 5:30pm – Oak Room / Council Workshop 6:15pm – Hadley Room.

June 4 – 5:30pm – Hadley Room / Event Planning

Sept 3 – 5:30pm – Hadley Room / Event Planning

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER (unknown) SECONDED BY MEMBER (unknown) TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TREE BOARD AT 6:30 P.M.

| | | | |
|-------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| Ayes | 9 | Abstain | 0 |
| Nays | 0 | Motions Carried | |

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Buhl, Recording Secretary