

Johnston Tree Board
November 15th, 2011 5:30 PM
Crown Point
6300 Pioneer Parkway
515-727-8091



MINUTES:

- 1 Meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.
- 2 Roll call: Barrick, Finney, Goodenow, Soelberg, Whitlow were present.
- 3 Motion to approve the Agenda made by Finney, second by Soelberg. Approved.
- 4 Election Of Officers-Virginia Soelberg shared a memo from Roberta Moltzen. Roberta would like to be considered as the new Chairperson of this Board if Louise, the current Chairperson is in agreement with this. Louise Whitlow said she is ready to let someone else be the chair of the Tree Board.
Motion made by Barrick to elect Roberta Moltzen as Chairperson and Louise Whitlow as Vice Chairperson. Second by Soelberg. Motion passed.
- 5 Public Comments
- 6 Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Barrick, second by Finney. Approved.
 - A. Approve Minutes of September 20th, 2011.
- 7 Non-Consent Agenda:
 - Discuss Tree Board Role & Mission-This item is tabled until the January 17th, 2012 meeting of the Tree Board when all members are present to discuss.
 - Discuss Oak Tree planted in Green Meadows Greenbelt-Park staff planted a Swamp White Oak in an open area of the Green Meadows Greenbelt, just south of N. Winwood. The goal is to plant trees in vacant areas now so if the ash trees are lost, there will still be trees in Green Meadows. When staff plants a tree they try to leave room to maneuver a mower, and to provide room for the new tree to grow.
Ron has gotten some positive feedback to the tree planted here and some negative feedback, so would like the Board's opinion on whether the tree should be moved or stay in its current location. After much discussion from the Board, it was felt the area isn't used that much as open space and the tree should stay where it is. Barrick made a recommendation the tree stay in its current location. Second by Finney. (One opposed) Motion passed.
 - Discuss Trees for 2012 Residential Tree Program-Tree varieties and numbers of each variety need to be determined for the 2012 Residential Tree Program. Ron has provided the Board with a list of previous year's selections as well as the selection guide from the ISU Extension Service. Staff recommends offering 160 trees with 40 of each of the four varieties that are chosen. The Tree Board discussed the different species and types of trees and chose four types of trees. Ron will see if these species are available and send an email to the Board once he gets this information. The trees selected are the following:

- Sweet Gum
- Bald Cypress
- Lilac Tree/Shadblow Service berry as 2nd Choice
- Austrian Pine/White Pine as 2nd Choice

Virginia would like to see the Lions Club recognized at the City Council meeting after the tree distribution next year. The Board felt this was a great idea, since the Lions Club donates funds from the Farmers Market to go towards the program and they also volunteer to help with the tree distribution.

8 Parks & Recreation Director Report:

- A. 2012 Trees Please! Grant Application-The application for the 2012 Grant has been turned in.
- B. REAP Grant for BCNRA- We received the Grant for \$25,000 for a Nature Trail in the Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area. The trail will use the existing multi-use trails in the area and will include interpretive signage, benches and scenic views.
- C. State Recreational Trails Grant for NW Beaver Drive Trail-We received money for this trail work and will hold until we need to use it for the work. The money has to be spent by 2015.
- D. Terra Lake Update-Plans are moving forward for the Terra Lake project. Ron met with Snyder & Associates this past week and they are working on the preliminary plans for this. The project was moved up in the CIP, so the work can flow in phases. The work will start in the spring of 2012.
- E. EAB Action Plan-Ron presented the Action Plan at the work session of City Council on Monday, November 7th, 2012. The presentation went well and Council felt the action plan is a positive step in the right direction to deal with the Emerald Ash Borer.
- F. Parks Crew-The Parks Crew has completed the trail repair in the Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area and has kept busy seeding the area. They are also getting equipment ready for the winter weather.
- G. Residential Tree Program May 5, 2012-Ron will not be available to attend the tree program on May 5th, 2012, so would like all the Tree Board volunteers to help out. Brenda will be on hand to help organize the event and the Lions Club will send volunteers, too.

9 Volunteer Hours: Barrick (1), Finney (1), Goodenow (1), Soelberg (3), Whitlow (1)

10 Next Tree Board Meeting January 18th, 2011.

11 Motion for Adjournment was made. Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.