

**MINUTES OF THE TREE COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT THE GREENFIELD DPW, ON THURSDAY,
MARCH 06, 2014, AT 6:30 PM**

- 1.** Joan Stevens, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM

**Meeting called to order
at 6:38 PM**

Roll Call:	Joan Stevens	Present
	Ald. Linda Lubotsky	Present
	Michael Wendt	Present
	Becky Thorpe	Present
	Lew Silva	Present

Also Present: Dan Ewert, Superintendent of Public Works
Dennis Fermenich, City Forester

- 2.** Approval of the January 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes

**Approval of 1/9/14
Minutes**

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Ms. Thorpe, to approve the January 9, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

- 3.** Aldermanic Report

Aldermanic Report

None

- 4.** Superintendent of Public Works Report

Public Works Report

In between the many snow events, crews are continuing to do pruning and tree removals.

Tree bids were opened today. There were four entities that submitted bids.

- 5.** Chair Report

Chair Report

Ms. Stevens presented a draft of the new Arbor Day Celebration flyer featuring Brookside Meadow Park. She indicated that she would like the Committee members to attend and help out if possible.

The Beautification Commission members requested that trees be placed in the pre-dug holes prior to the Arbor Day celebration to make it easier for children to plant. Mr. Ewert stated that part of this program is to get community involvement and that includes helping plant the trees. If Public Works is going to plant the trees in advance then he suggested that there are only three ceremonial trees that are planted by the public. Mr. Ewert didn't believe there were many problems with past tree plantings as there were plenty of adults and city staff available to help plant the trees. Mr. Fermenich also stated that he didn't believe the planting was a major problem. He thought that the benefits outweigh the potential problems. It was suggested that fewer trees are planted. There seem to be too many plantings happening at the same time making it difficult for staff to assist everyone. Ms.

Stevens will begin fundraising next week.

6. City Forester's Report

City Forester's Report

Mr. Fermenich met with Mr. Radler regarding the Arbor Day Tree planting site. Some berms need to be moved around as well as some shaping. The general plan for Arbor Day is being worked on but the design has not yet been done.

The pruning being done by DPW is not just structural pruning. They are also re-doing some areas that weren't done as well in the past. Mr. Fermenich feels that he has great communication with DPW staff doing the forestry work. He's seen great improvement in pruning and removals.

Mr. Fermenich is working with DPW's new software; Pubworks. He has a netbook now so he can directly access service requests.

There have been new Emerald Ash Borer finds within the city. There are some seriously infected trees along Honey Creek Parkway. It has also been found at 124th and Howard Ave. in New Berlin.

7. Review of Arborist Conference Program and Information

**Review of Arborist
Conference Program**

Based on this winter's weather it is expected that many species of plants will have winter damage.

Mr. Fermenich attended a discussion of EAB treatment trials. It was shown that every single tree doesn't need to be treated yearly to maintain effectiveness. As long as different groupings are treated yearly (about 20% of trees) the EAB seems to be kept under control.

8. Discussion and Decision regarding changes to the Master Tree List

**Discussion and
Decision regarding
Master Tree List**

Mr. Wendt has made changes to the Master Tree List and presented those changes to the commission. Mr. Fermenich indicated that he uses this list often and hands it out to residents when they have questions.

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Ms. Thorpe, to approve the changes to the Master Tree List. Motion carried unanimously.

8a. Further Discussion and Decision regarding proposed changes to the Tree Policy Manual.

**Discussion and
Decision regarding Tree
Policy Manual**

Mr. Ewert explained that the decision was made at the previous meeting and it was moving on to Board of Public Works. No further action by the Tree Commission is necessary.

9. Discussion and Decision regarding licensing of Arborists

**Discussion and
Decision regarding
licensing of Arborists**

NEXT AGENDA

10. Tree Planting Contracts

Tree Planting Contracts

Bid opening was this morning at 10:30 a.m. Dan Larsen Landscape was the lowest bidder. There were four bidders in total. The bid contract now has to go to the Common Council for approval. The total amount of trees will be 125. There are 25 replacement trees and the rest are project trees.

11. Discussion and Decision regarding request for Arbor Day Ceremonial Tree

**Discussion and
Decision regarding
Arbor Day Ceremonial
Tree**

For at least the past four years, the Division of Public Works has dug the holes for Arbor Day trees and Mr. Ewert said the DPW could again dig the holes for this Arbor Day.

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Ms. Thorpe, to approve the purchase the Arbor Day Ceremonial Tree. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Suggested date and discussion items for next meeting.

**Suggested Date and
Items for Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be on Thursday, May 1, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

13. Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Wendt, seconded by Ms. Thorpe, to adjourn the Tree Commission meeting at 8:03 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marina Schmidt
Clerk Typist
Division of Public Works

Date distributed: 4/24/14