

Tree Board Minutes
Tuesday September 17th, 2024, 4:30 pm
115 N 3rd Street

City Hall Conference Room

Attendees: Mark Herman, Grand Afflerbaugh, Darin DeHaan, Bill Covell, Jordan Plock, and Cheryl Hilton

Mark Herman called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Mark Herman moved to approve the December 6th, 2023 minutes, Seconded by Grant Afflerbaugh.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Review Tree City USA Requirements: Darin DeHaan said the designation needs to be applied for every year. The committee is also required to meet four times annually. The committee discussed applying for the Growth Award. The award has eighteen different categories, points are given for each category completed. The committee decided to review the categories and possibly apply for the award next year.

Membership: Darin DeHaan thanked Jordan Plock for joining the committee. The board needs a total of five members, he asked the other members for recommendations.

Public Education: The committee discussed adding information to the city newsletter. Mark Herman said the months of October and November are the best times to plant new trees. Darin DeHaan said the city has about fourteen thousand dollars set aside for tree planting. He suggested doing 80/20 cost sharing to gain interest from residents. The city's current program is 50/50 cost sharing with the resident. He asked if the public works department could manage planting additional trees this year. Jordan Plock said he did not see an issue with planting five to ten trees annually. He also said once the trees are planted, the resident needs to take over watering the new tree. He also said the residents need to be educated when a tree is removed or comes down naturally. Bill Covell said a handout could be created to give to residents when they lose a tree. That way they know the city has a program to help with the replacement.

What's Next: Darin DeHaan said the Sustainability Committee will be completing their work on the Sustainability Plan, this plan ties in directly with the Tree Board. Mark Herman said Morton Arboretum has event called Oaktober where they provide Oak Tree education, benefits, and awareness. Bill Covell said one issue with planting trees is the placement.

Other Business: Mark Herman said the Oregon Public Library may be interested in planting a tree. Grant Afflerbaugh asked where the city is currently getting trees. Bill Covell said Anne's. He also said a local nursery has reached out as well. Darin DeHaan asked to set the next few meetings to the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 4:30.

Mark Herman moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 pm, Seconded by Bill Covell.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Submitted by Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk.