

TREE BOARD

October 4, 2021

The Tree Board of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met for an in person meeting appearing on the 4th day of October, 2021, at 4:05 P.M.

ITEM 1, being:

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Menzie and Members Buthod, Fagin, Pape, and Spain

Tardy: Member Tedder-Loffland

Absent: Members Huffman and Janaway

City Officials: Tim Vermillion, City Forester
Karla Sitton, Admin Technician IV

ITEM 2, being:

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 2, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Member Fagin made the motion and Member Pape seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Menzie and Members Buthod, Fagin, Pape, and Spain

NAY: None

ITEM 3, being:

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Member Pape made the motion and Member Spain seconded to approve the agenda. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Menzie and Members Buthod, Fagin, Pape, and Spain

NAY: None

Member Tedder-Loffland arrived at the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

ITEM 4, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING NEIGHBORWOODS PROJECT

Mr. Tim Vermillion, City Forester, said a couple of citizens from the Hall Park Addition place door hangers throughout the addition to let the homeowners know about a free tree giveaway. He said citizens will need to submit an application for a free tree by October 11, 2021, and the trees can only plant them in the front yard, in a spot he chooses, i.e., not under electrical lines or in site triangles, etc. Mr. Vermillion said the City will financially match what the Hall Park HOA's donates toward the project. He said the free trees are at the Park Maintenance Facility and citizens will pick them up there; however, if a citizen needs help planting the tree, Staff can assist.

Member Pape asked whether planting instructions would be given to the citizens and Mr. Vermillion said yes. He said he also attended the Hall Park HOA meeting and answered several questions as well as provided planting tips/education to those in attendance.

ITEM 5, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING TREE STORY CONTEST PLANNING

Member Fagin said he sent Tree Story Contest flyers to Staff and would like the Board's approval before sending them out to the schools. He said he only needs to change the date and prizes. The Board discussed and agreed all the contest entries should be submitted by November 15th. Chairman Menzie said he would get the Tree Stories to Staff to be scanned and distributed to Board to look over as soon as possible. Member Fagin said his daughter is in the 5th grade and will be submitting a Tree Story; therefore, he would recuse himself from voting on the 5th grade entries.

Chairman Menzie said he has purchased two Go Pros, two telescopes, and two walkie-talkies for the winners; which will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for both 4th grade and 5th grade.

Member Fagin said he would submit the flyers to Norman Public Schools via Peachjar. He said the School Board will have to approve the flyers/content and will let him know when that is done. Member Fagin said he will reach out to the NPS and principals to promote the contest.

ITEM 6, being;

DISCUSSION REGARDING SECOND FRIDAY ART WALK

Member Fagin said there is not too much to report in regards to the Second Friday Art Walk. He said the Art Walk continues to get back into the swing of things pre-pandemic; however, it has been slow. Member Buthod asked if the Second Friday Art Walk is a seasonal event and Member Fagin said no, depending on the weather, it runs all year long. Member Fagin said the next Art Walk is scheduled for this Friday, October 8th, and said any of the Members could join him and help with the booth if they would like too. Members Pape and Tedder-Loffland said they can help this Friday and Chair Menzie said he would assist at the November Second Friday Art Walk.

Member Tedder-Loffland asked what needed to be done for the Second Friday Art Walk and Member Fagin said a location needs to be secured. He said Stash, located at 412 E. Main Street, usually allows him to set up a booth/table where Tree Board education and information can be promoted. Member Pape asked whether the Tree Board can put up a sign during the Second Friday Art Walk and Member Fagin said yes; however, Stash will not allow it. Member Buthod said Sea Shanty Scuba & Swim located at 116 E. Main Street, might let the Tree Board set up at their business during the Second Friday Art Walk. She said she would ask them and let Member Fagin know what she finds out.

ITEM 7, being:

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

Chair Menzie said Norman lost 15-20% of pine trees from the February 2021 Ice Storm. Member Buthod said the Bob Moore Group is planting Mega Flora trees to capture carbon, but not sure where the location is. Member Fagin asked what made the tree planning a Mega Flora and Member Buthod said it is not named as such in the science sense, but more of a brand. She suggested educating the public to use alternative species such as bald cypress. Member Tedder-Loffland agreed and Member Buthod said she would do more research before the next meeting.

Chairman Menzie said he and Mr. Vermillion attended a conference last week and made a lot of good contacts and networking. He said keeping things out of the land fill(s) was a major topic discussed.

ITEM 8, being:

ADJOURNMENT

Member Pape moved to adjourn and Member Fagin seconded to adjourn. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Menzie and Members Fagin, Pape, Spain and Tedder-Loffland

NAY: None

Passed and approved this 6th of December 2021

Don Menzie, Chairperson

