

City of Pierre
Arbor Board Minutes
Tuesday, March 22, 2022

The March 2022 meeting of the City of Pierre Arbor Board was held at the City Hall Training room. Board Chair Art Smith called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. Those in attendance were: Board Chair Art Smith; and Board Members Adam Kulesa, Rollie Isaacson, Tony Dorschner, Amanda Martin and Mark Smith. Also present were Ex-Officio Members: Commissioner Todd Johnson; Parks and Recreation Director Bryan Tipton; Parks Superintendent Tanya Lieberman; and Parks Department Crew Leader Toby Stertz. Rhea Waldman, Discovery Center Director, was also present to discuss the 2022 Arbor Day activity.

The Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2022, meeting as presented. The Board voted to approve the proposed meeting agenda, with the addition of “Dog Park Trees” to New Business.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *2022 Curb & Gutter Trees Update.* Tipton reported on meetings he had with some of the land owners regarding boulevard trees. Tipton indicated that the meetings went well. When Dr. Ball from SDSU was coming through town, Tipton met with him, and they reviewed each tree that was marked for removal to confirm that the tree should be removed. As a result of this review, one of the marked trees was granted a “reprieve.” Dr. Ball will be providing Tipton with some information that can be used by the city in the future to help make determinations on the need to remove trees in the boulevard.
2. *McDonald’s renovation & Trees.* There is no new information to report. Supposedly, McDonald’s is waiting to get trees to plant as required by the city’s landscape ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

3. *2022 Draft Plan of Work Discussion, Including EAB Response Plan Review.* A draft Plan of Work for the Board for 2022 has been presented to the Board for review. It will be reviewed at the April meeting. Also at the April meeting, the City’s EAB Response Plan will be reviewed to see whether there are any necessary updates. Staff Forester John Hartland provided a written document with some of his thoughts on the city’s EAB Response Plan.
4. *Arboretum Flower Gardens.* There was a short discussion about the pollinator/butterfly garden at the Arboretum. As a result of that discussion, the Board approved the following recommendation to the city and the parks department:

The Pierre Arbor Board recommends that the city continue development of the pollinator/butterfly gardens at the Arboretum, and fully supports efforts to beautify that area.

5. *2022 Arbor Day Activity – Tree City USA.* It was reported that the 2nd grader tree program is on schedule, and that the program will take place on April 29th, Arbor Day. Mark Smith offered to determine who should be contacted at the PILC to see whether they are interested in being part of the program.

Discovery Center Director Waldman indicated that the Discovery Center is getting an 8-foot cottonwood tree from the conservation district to be planted in the Mayor's Grove, which is adjacent to the Discovery Center. That planting will take place on April 29th, and will coincide with the grand opening of the renovated treehouse display in the Discovery Center. She agreed that this planting could be made part of the city's Arbor Day activities. The Board approved a motion to make the Discovery Center tree planting in the Mayor's Grove a part of the city's arbor day activities.

During this discussion, the condition of the signage at the Mayor's Grove was reviewed. Based upon that review, the Parks Department will work on updating, replacing and improving the signs in the Mayor's Grove.

Tipton also reported that in response to a request made by John Hartland, he updated some information on the city's Tree City USA application. The city is now just waiting to hear back from the Arbor Day Foundation.

6. *Election of new Board Officers.* Chair Smith indicated that while he wants to continue to serve on the Board, he would like to relinquish his position as Chair. Further discussion and a possible election will be held during the April meeting.

7. *Dog Park Trees.* Issues with some of the trees at the Dog Park site were noted. Although a few of the trees did not make it through the winter, most of the trees are doing surprising well. The Parks Department staff will continue to monitor the trees, and will let the Dog Park organizers know what has been going on.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Art Smith at 1:00 pm.

Next Meeting: Noon, Tuesday, April 26th, City Hall Training Room

Respectfully Submitted:



Mark Smith, Arbor Board Secretary