

Tree Commission Minutes
March 19, 7pm

Call to order: 7:00

Members present: Liz Johnson, Christine Penney, Jim Larson; City staff: Judy Gibbs, Shawna MullenEardley, Don Kienholz

Pledge

Minutes: none.

Forester Report: rolled into Old Business

Old Business

Sky Harbor: Jim Larson reported that an interim agreement with the Corps of Engineers to study fill situation is in place. No TC'ers attended the Park Point meeting on the small area plan. Judy will ask for minutes of that.

Hartley Pine Plantation:

Jim Larson: Harley is interviewing consultants this week: they must have trail, forest and public relations experience. Jim has a plan outline for the Pines for incorporation into the overall Mgt. Plan. Planners are considering options as the stand is past the correct age for corrective thinning. An idea on the table is to use the cut trees to build a structure in the park using citizen ideas, planning and labor where appropriate. Classes on building log structures?

Urban Mgt. Plan

Christine revised View Preservation Ord but there was no new discussion. Shawna, Kelly, Doug, Dale and Judy will be discussing in near future.

Shawna sent out a few more "sections" for plan including Goals, Methodology and Re-Leaf inclusions. The "goals" section is very basic, and it is in a table format that is very similar to one of the plans that we've used in Seattle. Shawna sent a form over to the City crew that maintains the street trees for feedback on pruning.

New Business

Shawna provided a fact sheet of tree budgets around the region. Duluth has been a Tree City for 24 years - there are growth awards associated with it. City received a 2012 award. Tree City signs are here but have proving difficult to place because of regulations on the number of signs/pole. TC generated some ideas for placement.

UMN -TC come to Duluth to take cuttings from Duluth's elm trees that appear to be resistant to Dutch Elm and will be growing clones in their gravel bed.

Hartley Park land sale: 27 acres right by the entrance to the park are at risk of sale. Discussion of possible conservation orgs who could buy and preserve the area.

Adjourn: 8:30.