

## Tree Commission Minutes

16 July 2013

**Call to Order:** 7:05 PM

### Pledge

**Members Present:** Judy Gibbs, Barbara Stark, Mark Hakes, Angela Brannan, Shawna Mullen Eardley, Jim Lemmerman, Janet Nelson

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Mark, seconded by Barbara to approve the May minutes. Motion passed.

### Staff/Forester's Report: (Don Kienholz wasn't able to attend)

- a) Tree Planting: Judy reported that the first round of boulevard tree planting is over and no more planting will take place until September. There are 600-700 trees presently in the gravel beds waiting for planting.
- b) Glenwood/Anderson/Oxford: Shawna reported that the Re-Leaf Program of cost sharing with citizens has ended since the City has more money now to plant trees. The Re-Leaf Program will fulfill orders through the fall and the deadline for orders is August 15. Shawna also reported that the tree inventory is almost completed with only half of Gary/New Duluth left to do. Judy stated that many stumps still need grinding and there are many dead trees along Glenwood. A letter regarding sod/tree care will be sent to residents. Judy also reported on the work underway at the intersection of Hawthorne and E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Trees to be removed along Hawthorne have been marked.

### Old Business:

- a) Nomination/Election of Officers: A motion to close nominations for Chair was made by Mark, seconded by Shawna. Jim was elected Chair. A motion to close nominations for Vice Chair was made by Barbara, seconded by Mark. Angela was elected Vice Chair. A motion to close nominations for Secretary was made by Mark, seconded by Shawna. Mark and Barbara were elected (by a tie vote) and will share the position of Secretary.
- b) Viewshed Update: Work is ongoing for the viewshed process.
- c) Tree City Signs Update: A project proposal still needs to be submitted to the City and then the signs can be ordered.
- d) Tree Planting Activities: A moment of silence for Steve O'Neil was observed. A discussion was held regarding planting a tree in his memory, possibly on Jefferson Street, and possibly a fruit tree or trees.
- e) Invasive Species Master Plan Update: Interns are working on plans to deal with invasives like buckthorn, garlic mustard and Japanese knotweed on City, County and private property. There is a need for public education and awareness to identify and help eradicate these plants. There will not be any spraying for gypsy moths this summer but next summer there will be aerial spraying of Bt.

### New Business:

- a) Tree Commissioner Interest Survey: Shawna handed out the responses from those who submitted information. This resulted in a discussion of committees to focus on certain

- topics such as 1)Event Planning Committee (Mark, Barbara) to look into various events where the Tree Commission might have a table; 2)Communications Committee (Mark) to work on Facebook connections; and possibly 3)Invasive Species Committee.
- b) Aspenwood: There are many areas like Aspenwood that are private developments with private trees (cemeteries, golf courses...) that would benefit from information/education about issues concerning trees. The Tree Commission could provide information about topics like the Emerald Ash Borer and Gypsy Moth to a home-owners' association or cemetery manager to assist in maintaining healthy trees in our community.
  - c) Tree Commission Logo: The Tree Commission needs its own logo. Research into logo ideas will begin.

**Next Meetings:** August 20<sup>th</sup>,September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjourn:** 8:25 PM