

Urban Forest Commission

Meeting Minutes August 16, 2017

Attendance:

Commissioners: Mike Pennington, Judy Gibbs, Susan Stanich, Christine Penney, Beth Peterson,

Liz Johnson

City Staff: Dale Sellner

Call to Order:

The meeting started at 6:03.

Minute Approval:

The minutes from the July 19th, 2017, were pending approval upon amending the date of the City Forester position closing. This has been completed.

Forester's Report

EAB

1. Ash tree removals will begin in September. The trees that will be removed will be marked with a red X and homeowners will be notified.
2. The Public Open House EAB presentation at Hartley Nature Center went well. A presentation was given by Judy Gibbs. The idea of Citizen Scientists was discussed. This is a model of training citizens to identify EAB infestations.
3. Injections have begun in 3 zones.
4. The City Forester will need to analyze the EAB data that has been collected.

Tree Plantings

1. The tree plantings for this season are on schedule. However, the plantings slated for Chambers Grove Park were suspended until archeological studies can be completed.

Skyline View

1. The cutting s that were identified for 2017 have been completed.

Treating Elm Trees

1. It was requested that the City Forester investigate the cost and logistics of treating Elm Trees to prevent Dutch Elm Disease.

New Business:

Natalie White from SEH gave a report on the Sky Harbor Airport Project. The runway is being relocated to avoid Red and White Pine Trees located in the Minnesota Point Pine Forest Science and Natural Area. As part of the project invasive species will be eradicated. The project will take 3 years to complete.

Old Business

NBC Community Service

1. The trees for planting have been ordered. They will receive 2000 in September. They have netting for Deer protection.
2. They are currently looking for a site to plant the trees. Chambers Grove can't be disturbed until an archeological study is completed. Lincoln Park cannot be used because of an ongoing construction project to repair Miller Creek from damage from the 2012 flood.

City Forester

Clark Christenson will begin part time August 17th, 2017.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05, m/s/c.