

**MINUTES
TREE BOARD
WEDNESDAY JULY 14, 2010
FIRST FLOOR COUNCIL ROOM
4:00 P.M.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Helen Chaplin
Marcy Brown-Marsden
Scott Wilson
Sara Beckelman
Jim Scrivner
Gareth Harrier
Lorraine Taylor
Karen Harmon

IPAR STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Griffith
Becky Dietz

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Randy Boatright

Item 1 – Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Marcy Brown-Marsden at 4:02 p.m.

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes

Karen Harmon made a motion to approve minutes. Scott Wilson 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3 – Information Items

A. Director's Report

No report this month.

B. Park Manager's Report

Mike Griffith informed the board members that the City has received approval of the \$10,000 grant from the Texas Forest Service which will allow us to have a total of 4,000 trees evaluated and GPS for location. Mike is currently working with the IT Department to get everything ready for the technical side of the process. The low bid for this project was from Urban Renewal, Inc. Urban Forester, Matt Grubisich will be performing the tree assessment. He is currently doing the same assessment in Arlington. The assessment will start on Monday, August 9, 2010 by doing an inventory of 2,000 trees on our medians / ROW. The other 2,000 trees assessed will be in some of the area parks.

Mike answered questions from board members.

C. Chairman's Report

Marcy Brown-Marsden thanked all of the board members for their time at their one-on-one meetings with her.

Item 4 – Discussion:

A. Ordinance Review

Marcy Brown-Marsden has met with each Tree Board member on an individual basis since the last meeting to discuss their questions and concerns regarding the tree ordinances. Marcy made a list of their comments and questions and emailed it to all board members prior to this meeting. Marcy briefly reviewed the list at the meeting.

Mike Griffith informed the board on how the Tree Ordinances originated. Mike said other cities ordinances were used to get ideas from and took things from them that we could build upon and make improvements to.

Lorraine Taylor mentioned that her thought on the ordinances should be that the language used could be where everyone understood the ordinance. Perhaps a separate booklet could be written, breaking down the ordinance in layman's terms.

B. Subcommittee Structure

Chair, Marcy Brown-Marsden, reviewed with board members, three proposed committees and their responsibilities. Following is a list of committees:

1. Arbor Day and Special Events Committee

The goal of this committee is to assist in coordinating and promoting Arbor Day activities, and work with city staff as they undergo the planning effort for Arbor Day. This committee will also provide support and advice for other tree-related special events, and support the city's Tree City USA efforts.

2. Education and Outreach Committee

The goal of this committee is to aid in providing educational/reference material for Irving citizens to promote the protection of healthy trees and to help in understanding the role that trees play within the city. This committee will assist in providing tree care guidelines through a tree guide, and aid preservation of native or established trees within the city through education and outreach efforts. These efforts may include a visible presence at various city outreach events as well as assistance in the development of tree-related pages for the city's website.

3. Standards Committee

The goal of this committee is to study existing plans for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposal of trees as specified in the various regulations governing trees and landscaping within the city. The standards committee will evaluate and make recommendations about these regulations at the request of the respective city offices and staff overseeing these plans. The committee will also aid parks and recreation staff in working toward the protection, replacement and/or replanting of trees in parks, public property or rights of way.

Marcy Brown-Marsden made appointments to the committees as follows:

- Arbor Day Committee – Helen Chaplin, Karen Harmon and Jim Scrivner
- Education and Outreach Committee – Scott Wilson, Gareth Harrier
- Standards Committee – Sara Beckelman, Lorraine Taylor

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Item 5 – Future Agenda Items

September 8th meeting – Arbor Day Committee report

November 10th meeting – Education/Outreach Committee report

January 12, 2011 meeting – Standards Committee report

Item 6 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.