

Hurricane City Tree Board minutes 10/28/15

The Hurricane City Tree Board met on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at 4:30 pm. in the City Hall East Conference Room located at 147 N 870 West, Hurricane, UT 84737.

Welcome/Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Devin Ruesch at 4:30 p.m. Devin Ruesch offered a prayer.

Members Present: Devin Ruesch, Butch Farnsworth, Daniel Allen, and Rebecca Bronneman

Members Excused: Wayne Shamo

Staff Present: City Council Representative Darin Thomas, City Park Superintendent Darren Barney, and Planning Assistant Cindy Beteag

Approval of minutes: Board members approved the September 9, 2015 minutes.

Review of Tree Board mission: Devin Ruesch read the Tree Board mission.

Wayne: Hurricane City Tree Book. Wayne Shamo was not present to give an update. Butch Farnsworth asked what was the Hurricane City Tree Book. Devin Ruesch explained the Tree Board incorporated St. George's Tree Book. He stated it is available on the City webpage and it lists all the trees that do well in our area. He mentioned Ray Ballard wrote a section on edible shade trees that is included in the book. Mr. Ruesch stated they want to update the pictures with trees in Hurricane instead of St. George.

Butch: Tree Board workshop in January, focus on public trees. Butch Farnsworth stated Devin had told him the Tree Board typically holds a workshop in January. He stated he has never been to it before and he asked what they normally do. Devin Ruesch stated they have been in the spring. One year it was on irrigation and the next year it was on planning. He explained they gather resources and do a training/informative workshop and offer door prizes. Mr. Farnsworth stated if the Tree Board is trying to get people to plant trees then January or February would be better. He stated they need to come up with a topic and a day to hold the workshop. Board discussed different dates. It was decided January 23rd at the Community Center would be the best for every one. Mr. Ruesch invited Daniel Allen to speak at the workshop. He stated the focus is on public trees and asked for any suggestions. He stated the Tree Board's job is to educate the community so they will want to plant good trees. He stated some topics could be how to water wisely, encourage people to plant, and advertise the Tree Book. Darren Barney stated they could talk about what trees do the best in this area. Mr. Farnsworth asked about the borer that attacks the Ash Tree. Daniel Allen explained the Emerald Ash Borer. Mr. Farnsworth stated that would be a good topic for the workshop.

Rebecca: Arbor Day, focus on private trees. Rebecca Bronneman stated she looked online for different ideas on how to celebrate Arbor Day. She stated some ideas she liked is having a contest with who can find the biggest or oldest tree in Hurricane. She stated they could do a book reading at the library, a coloring contest, or a contest at the schools. She stated Nebraska City has a three day celebration for Arbor Day. Mr. Allen stated that is where it started. Ms. Bronneman suggested having a 5k run or a craft fair with things made from trees. Devin Ruesch stated the date is usually the last Friday in April. He stated she had some great ideas they could use. Mr. Allen stated the State has a program to keep track of the oldest and biggest trees that

could help with the contest. Ms. Bronneman suggested doing a plaque to put in front of the oldest tree.

Darin Thomas: City Council update. Darin Thomas stated there is going to be a change in the City Council because of elections. He stated there are three spots open and he will not be running again. Mr. Ruesch thanked him for his work and wished him the best.

Devin: Wise ordinance implementation. Devin Ruesch stated the City doesn't have a lot of ordinances on the Tree Board. He stated he likes that there isn't a lot but ordinances are good to help people. He thinks they should consider some ordinances to help citizens. He stated most trees in our Urban Forest are privately owned. He stated a good ordinance doesn't take away freedoms but helps people do things they can't do. He would like to see the City help educate people.

Daniel Allen, Utah State Urban and Community Forester: Using tree inventory software. Daniel Allen stated topping trees hurts them. He explained he is a state provided resource and if anyone needs any information, technical assistance, or help with grants he can help. He stated he is a Certified Arborist and would love to help. He stated there was a pre meeting about the collector app. He explained this is the latest thing the State is doing to help with urban forests and tree inventory. Mr. Ruesch asked why Cities need an inventory. Mr. Allen stated the app doesn't help with privately owned trees but all public trees. He stated it is a very powerful tool to see how many trees are in the City, what their conditions are, and how old they are. The information can be summarized into an inventory. He stated there was an inventory done on the older system and the state was able to pull that data into the collector app. This app can be run from any tablet or smart phone. City workers can add or remove trees as needed from the app. He stated it will be a little bit of work to update all the old information. Mr. Ruesch asked how many trees are in Hurricane. Darren Barney stated he is unsure. Mr. Ruesch asked for the name of the app. Mr. Allen stated it is Collector by ARC GIS, explaining only the people with the credentials can log in and change anything and those will be given to Darren Barney. Mr. Farnsworth asked if citizens could view the information on the app but not edit anything. Mr. Allen stated no, you would have to have the log in account.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.