

Tree Commission Minutes

Thursday, February 21, 2019

Public Works Conference Room- 7:00

Attendees: Matt South, Casandra Strudwick, Phil Butto and Susan Kowalske.

Guests: Alex Kelemen, Marilyn Olzmann, Curt Van Blarcum

Absent: Dave Faiman

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the October 25, 2018 were read. All voted in favor.

Public Comment: Mr. Van Blarcum provided a history of the arborist position within Hudson. He was the City's first arborist and he described many of the duties that he undertook. He had some thoughts and ideas on the posted opening. He was happy to hear that the job would be filled.

Reports/Presentations:

City Council Liaison- Mr. Kelemen noted that he and other members of Council were surprised by Mr. Munn's retirement. He was looking forward to an update. He reminded members that Linda O'Neill has volunteered to provide any assistance as needed by the group. Mr. Kelemen also suggested that this may be a good time for the group to evaluate its priorities and possible funding levels.

Hudson Garden Club Liaison- Mrs. Olzmann talked about the grant opportunity with the Hudson Garden Club. Mr. Hutchinson reviewed several potential options for the grant and will follow up with Mrs. Olzmann. Mrs. Olzmann noted that up to \$7,000 could be available and the grant is now a reimbursement.

Urban Forestry Update- Mr. Hutchinson provided an update on Mr. Munn's retirement. While the City explored many options, staff will be moving forward with posting the Arborist position. The job posting closes on March 4. Tree Commission members were invited to participate in the process moving forward. Mr. South noted that he would like to participate. Several members noted a desire to forward questions to be included in the formal interviews. Mr. Hutchinson will handle the duties of the arborist until the position is filled. Members noted that Arbor Day is April 26 and they would prefer to have an event. Ms. Strudwick will check with Hudson Montessori to see if the event can be held there. Mr. Van Blarcum volunteered to plant a tree as part of the activities that day. Mr. Hutchinson will check the Mayor's availability.

New Business:

Tree Commission Calendar- Mr. Hutchinson distributed a copy of the meeting schedule for 2019. Meetings will be held every other month.

Closure to Meeting:

Next meeting is scheduled for April 25 at 7:00 pm at the Public Works Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Minutes were submitted by Eric Hutchinson, Assistant Public Works Director

Matt South, Tree Commission Chairman _____