

1. No Agenda

There is no agenda available for this meeting. Please view minutes.

2. Supporting Meeting Documents

Documents:

[MINUTES.PDF](#)

Trees Forever Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2015, the meeting commenced at 4:02 p.m., at the Parks and Recreation Office, basement conference room at 10 West State Street in Marshalltown, Iowa.

Present: Sue Blaisdell, Judy Butler, Mel Dostal, Gary Fulton, Sheila Geraghty, Terry Gray, Bob Hibbs, Gary Mason, Ray Mitchem and Doni Sheldon.

Minutes of the September 17, 2013 meeting were approved as presented. The financial report was reviewed. There has been a total of \$286.07 in expenses since the last meeting with a balance of \$4,573.19. Expenditures include \$88.00 for committee's share of Shade Tree Short Course registration for Gary Mason, \$43.07 for refreshments provided a last planting project and \$155.00 for cost of tree coloring books obtained for school age children. A total of \$4.36 interest was received on our investment.

Gary Mason presented an overview of our 21 years of participation in the Trees Forever Branching Out Program during which a total of 2,180 trees have been planted in various areas throughout Marshalltown. He stated that about 12% loss of these tree plantings has occurred since our first planting project done in 1991 as a result of storm damage, vandalism, diseases and construction projects.

Gary Mason informed the committee that we have received a \$3,076.00 tree project grant from the Alliant Energy and Trees Forever Branching Out partnership for tree planting this spring. This grant is for the full amount of the estimated cost of the trees to be obtained for this year's project.

Gary Mason outlined this year's project during which a total of 33 trees are to be planted in four different areas. Tree bid requests were sent to seven nursery firms. Two bids were received. Earl May Nursery & Garden Center submitted a bid of \$4,970.00. Wood Duck Tree Farms submitted a bid of \$4,036.40. Mel Dostal moved to accept the bid submitted by Wood Duck Tree Farms. Gary Fulton seconded. The motion carried.

A tree planting date of Saturday, April 25 was set. Participants will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the maintenance Barn at the east end of Woodland Street in Riverview Park. If needed a rain date of Saturday, May 2nd has been set. A planting demonstration will be done at a nearby location in Riverview Park before the volunteer go out to their assigned planting sites. Trees will be delivered to each of the 4 sites before 9:00 a.m. and mulch will be stock piled at each site earlier that week.

Recruitment of volunteers for tree planting day was discussed. Gary Fulton will check with Biology students, Mel with Lions Club members, Ray with scout troops and Doni with 4-H clubs for volunteer. Gary Mason will send letter to service clubs about the project with a call for volunteers.

Gary Mason and Gary Fulton presented information about the Sustainable Community Forestry Assistance and Training Grant that the city recently received and its importance in assisting communities in establishing a forestry program, particularly with the impending threat of Emerald Ash Borer.

The committee will meet again on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Gary Mason