

**Branching Out Committee Meeting
October 15, 2015-Conference Room**

Present: Gary Fulton, Sue Blaisdell, Mel Dostal, Doni Sheldon, Gary Mason, Terry Gray

Minutes from last meeting were accepted.

Suggestion made to plant a memorial tree for Gene Neven. Mel motioned that we do plant a tree and it was seconded by Doni. A plaque will be included. Joann Neven will be contacted re: location for tree to be planted in spring of 2016.

Appropriate title for this committee was discussed. Terry is checking with Trees Forever on their suggestion. New format for this committee: We will be a working committee with Marshalltown Park and Rec with Gary Fulton as the chairman and Doni Sheldon as secretary. Park and Rec will be the treasurer.

Sue had mentioned planting trees from seeds at a prior meeting. Gary said that there would be some space at Riverview Park that seeds could be planted.

A business in Marshalltown is thinking of donating 100 trees to the city. Park and Rec staff would select the location for planting the trees and the types of trees to be planted. The business would be responsible for planting and caring for the trees.

Planting trees along terrace at the Gold Finch Park pond was discussed.

Terry presented a list of proposed goal ideas and objectives for the committee to consider. This information will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Sue mentioned having a chainsaw cutting class for the public to attend to learn the proper and safe way to use a chainsaw and how to trim a tree. This could be tied in with the pruning workshop coming up.

Announcements: Gary Mason will be retiring at the end of this year and Terry will be retiring the end of January.

Next meeting is November 19, 2015.

Meeting was adjourned.

Doni Sheldon