

Trees Forever Minutes

Thursday, August 26, 2015, the meeting commenced 10:00 am, at the 2nd Floor Conference Room, 10 West State Street in Marshalltown, Iowa.

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

Minutes of the April 21, 2015, were presented. The financial report was reviewed showing a balance of \$3304.31 in the Trees Forever project fund. Terry used funds in this account to purchase snacks, supplies and lunch one day for the volunteers in the Sustainable Urban Forestry Training and Assistance (SUFTA) grant program.

Gary reported on the tree planting held last spring with all the trees having survived to date. Through SUFTA, 10 trees were planted and Riverview and one of those has died.

A copy of the Branching Out application was distributed. If we choose to apply, it is due November 1. Doni suggested Timber Creek Park and Goldfinch Park terrace area as possible planting sites. All members were invited to make suggestions.

It was reported that the tree inventory for all terrace trees has been completed, as well as the bike trail and five of the city parks. Once the parks are done, the information will be uploaded by the DNR and data made available to us.

The SUFTA grant requires a review of the city's terrace tree ordinance and that the city set a canopy goal. Once the goal is set, through the help of the Trees Forever committee, a plan will be devised to achieve that goal. Ideas for various tree planting opportunities and education components were discussed as possibilities, all of which will require more study and input.

It was decided to meet on a regular basis with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 17 at 4:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.