

Minutes from North Liberty Tree and Storm Water Advisory Board Meeting

January 12, 2022, 7:00 pm

Call to Order by Abdouramane Bila-Chair person. Board members present: Michael Burrill, Darice Baxter, Doris Vaske, Guy Goldsmith-Parks Director, Mike Wolfe-Stormwater Coordinator

Approval of Minutes for November 10, 2021 meeting. Motion by Michael Burrill., second by Darice Baxter. Motion carried

Abdouramane Bila opened the floor for Public Comment with no public comments to address.

Guy Goldsmith provided an update that the application for the MidAmerican *Trees Please Grant 2022* was submitted. If received, the \$1,000 would be used to plant trees at West Lakes.

Guy Goldsmith provided an update on that the application for Tree City USA designation and has been approved at the state level and will go on to the Arbor Day Foundation for approval. This would be for the tree work done in 2021 and would be the 27th year of being awarded this designation.

Guy Goldsmith discussed that tree trimming has continued through the winter, specifically along fence lines and raising tree limb levels, as winter is a great time to trim trees.

Guy Goldsmith provided an update on a proposed new position for the Parks department which would be a certified arborist. The position is awaiting approval from the city council.

Michael Burrill provided an update on the Fairview Lane traffic circle that discussions have occurred in amongst the citizens in that area. The goal would be an improved appearance through new planting of shrubbery though questions remain about who would pay for and/or maintain any plantings. A local landscape company has provided free design work to be presented to the city. Guy Goldsmith adds that the City Ambassador group has approached the city about a joint effort to enhance this area.

Abdouramane Bila asks if this is city property which Guy Goldsmith confirms it is and long term maintenance would likely fall to the city though the initial project may be expedited with a joint effort. Michael Burrill notes that there is considerable buy in from the neighborhood to provide labor to remove the old shrubbery.

Guy states that Muddy Creek Clean-up will be on April 9, 2022 which is right before the next meeting so he will email reminders to the board and post information for the community. Cubs and Boys Scouts often help with this along with other members of the community. Abdouramane Bila wants to ensure the communication department is providing this information through the various media forms which they have. Michael Burrill proposes utilizing the white board at the Rec center which offers a lot of visibility.

Abdouramane Bila asks Guy Goldsmith where the tree plantings at West Lakes will be done. Guy states that the trees will be planted between the trees which were planted 2 years ago to fill in the spaces.

Abdouramane Bila wants to ensure that this board does not need to take any action on the proposed position for the certified arborist. Guy states that no action is needed as this will be handled by the city council. The arborist would provide landscaping care for the numerous plantings throughout the city.

Mike Wolfe provided a reminder that with forecasted snow followed by a warm up street flooding can occur and any help the general public can provide in making sure storm drains are unblocked can help greatly.

Mike Wolfe provided an update on the finalization of a grant. Working on approving designs and color schemes which will wrap up in the next month. This will provide T-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. to have available at home shows and other events to offer to people who come to discuss stormwater practices and city programs available to improve stormwater management.

Mike Wolfe again reminds the public to use less salt on driveways and sidewalks as the excess can contaminate stormwater.

Abdouramane Bila opened the floor for Old Business. Guy asks Mike Wolfe if there will be continuation of the storm water intake painting that has occurred throughout the city but has likely been limited during the pandemic. Mike states that there have been numerous applications and designs and he hopes that these will be able to move forward.

Abdouramane Bila opened the floor for New Business with none to address.

Next Meeting date: April 13th, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Motion to adjourn by Michael Burrill, second by Doris Vaske. Motion carried