

## **Minutes from North Liberty Tree and Storm Water Advisory Board Meeting**

**July 12, 2023, 7:00 pm**

Call to Order by Abdouramane Bila-Chairperson. Board members present: Kevin McGrane, Doris Vaske, Michael Burrill, Guy Goldsmith-Parks Director, Mike Wolfe-Storm Water Coordinator, Brian Hamer-City Arborist

Approval of Minutes for April 12, 2023 meeting. Motion by Kevin McGrane, second by Doris Vaske. Motion carried.

Abdouramane Bila opened the floor for Public Comment with no public comments to address. Guy Goldsmith states that he has received numerous questions regarding Ash trees and what the city can do to help citizens. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

The terms for Abdouramane Bila and Kevin McGrane expired June 30th. Both have reapplied and have been reappointed to 3-year terms on the Tree and Stormwater Advisory Board.

Abdouramane Bila took nominations for board positions. Abdouramane Bila was nominated as Chairperson which was affirmed by vote. Michael Burrill was nominated as Vice Chair which was affirmed by vote. Kevin McGrane was nominated as secretary which was affirmed by vote.

Guy Goldsmith provided an update that the trees from the MidAmerican *Trees Please Grant 2023* have not yet been planted due to dry weather. The plan is to plant these trees in the fall. The trees will be planted at the Rec center as replacements for trees that have died.

Brian Hamer discussed that much of the work that has been done this summer has been watering all the plantings throughout the city given the ongoing drought. Brian reports that some plant material that has grown from seed has been transplanted to other areas.

Brian Hamer reports that 2 additional Ash trees have been removed due to ash borer, which is an improvement from last year.

Guy Goldsmith reports that there continues to be talks about the city providing some assistance to citizens who have Ash trees that have died to help offset the cost of removal as this is a safety concern.

Kevin McGrane asks if the city had switched Ash borer treatments. Guy and Brian state that this is the second year with the current product.

Mike Wolfe provided an update that North Liberty will be joining a new Middle Iowa Watershed management authority. North Liberty is already part of the Clear Creek Watershed management authority. This will help North Liberty work with other municipalities to improve water quality and may help obtain grants for stormwater improvement practices.

Mike Wolfe stated that there will be a stormwater conference in the beginning of November in Coralville at the Hyatt. This will be a 2-day event with walking tour and information on stormwater practices.

Abdouramane Bila asks how the utility mapping that was completed has been useful. Mike Wolfe states that it has been very useful already and is used daily. There are some new developments which will need to be mapped.

Abdouramane Bila mentions that the pond near Arby's does not look good. Mike Wolfe states that this pond is private, but the zoning department is working on that problem.

Guy Goldsmith states that city ponds have been treated to keep algae and unwanted vegetation down to keep the ponds healthy. The treatments have had to start earlier due to hot, dry weather.

Abdouramane Bila opens the floor to old business with none to address.

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

Next Meeting date: October 11th, 2023 at 7:00 pm

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