**MARION TREE BOARD MINUTES**

August 10, 2016, 7:00 A.M.

Thomas Park Safe Room

ROLL CALL: Chair Scott Hansen, Mark Sanderson, Marilyn Tormey, Pam Munro, Rodney Bluml

ABSENT: Sunshine McDonald, Tom Ryan

STAFF: Mike Cimprich, Mike Carolan, Darcie Coberly

GUESTS: None

Minutes

Moved by Bluml and seconded by Tormey to approve the July 13, 2016, Tree Board minutes. Sanderson stated there was only one infected elm tree along Indian Creek Road and the minutes indicate there were several. Sanderson requested the minutes be corrected. Bluml withdrew his original motion and moved to approve the July 13, 2016, Tree Board minutes as amended; seconded by Tormey. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report

The financial report was received and filed. Bluml asked if there was a maximum number of memorial trees planted per year. Cimprich explained currently memorial trees are designated for Lowe Park. There is plenty of area for new trees including the new trail on the north side of the property.

Public Input

None.

Code Review Chapter 152 Trees

It was recommended that nuisance and diseased trees be addressed in the City Code. Staff will develop a working document for review at the next meeting.

Right-of-Way Tree 996 13th Street

At 996 13th Street a mature maple tree was removed about five years ago from the right-of-way, and a replacement tree was furnished by the City through the street tree replacement program. Since that time, four other soft maples have been planted or volunteered in the right-of-way area without the required permit or approval.

Hansen stated there would be room for two trees in the right-of-way. Munro asked if the property owner has received a letter yet. Carolan indicated staff will attempt to reach the owner by phone or in person before a letter is mailed. Moved by Sanderson and seconded by Munro for staff to contact the property owner at 996 13th Street with the concerns of overcrowded trees in the right-of-way. All in favor, motion carried. Carolan indicated the owner can be invited to a Tree Board meeting.

Right-of-Way Tree 1680 8th Avenue

At 1680 8th Avenue a sycamore was planted in the right-of-way by the City in place of a removal through the street tree replacement program. Around the same time, another soft maple tree was planted or volunteered within five feet of the replacement tree.

Tormey and Bluml inspected the trees along 8th Avenue and advised the maples are too close together. It was noted that the maples are also causing trouble with the sidewalk. Motioned by Hansen and seconded by Sanderson directing staff to remove the maple trees. All in favor, motion carried.

Other

Hansen asked if there were any plans for tree plantings for the new roundabout at 7th Street and 7th Avenue. Carolan advised there aren’t any specific plans at this time. After the project is completed we will assess what can be done.

Staff Report

The last month forestry staff have been trimming with the use of the Public Services’ chipper.

Tree inventory is more than two-thirds complete. Darin Andresen from the Engineering Department will be adding the new inventory information to the current GIS program. This will enable viewing the city’s tree canopy when the inventory is completed.

Munro left the meeting at 7:48.

The City website is being updated with information about the Forestry Department, including related code sections, Arboricultural Specifications and the approved right-of-way tree list.

On Wednesday, August 17, a company will be demonstrating their tree injection system in Thomas Park. Hansen asked if the details could be shared via email so board members could attend.

Adjournment

Moved by Sanderson and seconded by Tormey to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:56.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 7:00 a.m. at the Thomas Park Safe Room.

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 Marilyn Tormey, Secretary