

FORESTRY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 10th, 2021 @ 8:00 A.M.

Oconto City Hall Council Chambers

- 1.) Chairman Jeff Werner called the meeting to order @ 8:07 a.m.
Roll Call: Nick Badendick, Susan K. Seidl, and Jeff Werner
Absent: Tom Sasse
Also Present: Director of Forestry, Parks and Rec. John Bostedt
- 2.) **Badendick called for approval of Agenda; Seidl witnessed the second. (3 Ayes)**
- 3.) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 2/17/2021 with the addition of Roll Call: Nick Badendick's name and the correct spelling of Emerald Ash Borer was placed into motion by Badendick with a second of Chair Werner. (3 Ayes)**
- 4.) Public Input: Badendick noted an incident on Pecor St. (elderly Cedar trees as a neighbor invasive hangover) which Bostedt fielded as a “neighborly discussion” to resolve. Were a more aggressive approach needed, the City could become involved. The issue proved informative.
- 5.) Correspondence:
 - a.) Northeastern WI Forest Health Update WIDNR (January) had insight into root disease and how to treat stumps; oak wilt which is beetle-infected, responds to a treatment and harvesting; tree damage by the conifer bark beetle; and Rime Ice which is not a cause to worry.
 - b.) Wisconsin Pollinators (February - It's Groundhog Day) Graphs and photos proved outstanding (March – Garden Plans) was just that. It gave planters a chance to pre-prepare: 10 helpful tips. We were challenged with the rabbit/hare quiz. Especially interesting was how to keep leggy seedlings thicker.
 - c.) Wisconsin Arbor Day E-News informed on Swamp White Oak which has a 300 year duration reaching 50 – 60' and is placed in swampy and urban full-sun areas; Monarch butterfly destruction of habitat is most often due to logging and forest fires. Coffee Leaf rust warnings were caused by planting too closely or with barriers which cause spread of fungicides, as well as droplet of water dangers and spreading.
 - d.) Wisconsin Urban Wood January 2021 Newsletter makes a good resource though no new insight was gained this month. Bostedt sees it as geared to those with logging operations.
 - e.) *Rainbow Tree Care* (Webinars) Seidl listened to “ID and Management of Common Scale Insects in the Midwest” and provided notes which will be available to the Committee. Those interested in *specific tree-type ailments* were directed to listen to the web-keeper.
- 6.) Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:
 - a.) Review wording of present ordinance for “Dangerous, Obstructive, or Infected Trees” is still in anticipation however, its specific documented wording is an attempt to cover various circumstances and questions of the public.
 - b.) Future Tree Planting Areas— Note: d.) 6th Grade Arbor Day Planting
 - c.) Trees Removed— Discussion revolved around a large female Cottonwood tree on Bay Shore Rd. which had grown ½ and ½ on the property line of both owners. The City resolved the issue and costs accordingly.
 - d.) Finalize 2021 6th Grade Arbor Day Celebration Theme/Visit/Planting/Poster Contest Rules— Werner has notified respective teachers solidifying plans to consolidate schedules and needs. He also created a morning/afternoon planting/tour schedule.

* April 10, 1872, Badendick informed of the 1st Arbor Day. **NOTE: a good connection to next year's poster.**

Finalizing revolved around the issues of the **Theme: “Trees grow with us and for us.”**; the # of students in the class (#40) and how to divide them with pandemic protocol; to sound Bay Shore Academy (#20 students) and if involved to determine a second day; accomplishment with no bussing; and poster winner equality (since students will be from 3 different classes). “Honorable mentions” were considered. Dates will be determined @ the April meeting. Badendick noted that Copper Culture was ideal to this activity however 2021 will be regulated to Main Street walk-ability.

e.) Meacham Nursery Spring 2021 Availability Packet has been viewed by the Committee. Seidl mentioned Sweet shrubs (a grow-hardy option in planting) which could not be found in the packet: it was determined not an option for our present type of planting.

f.) Urban Forestry Management Plan Practices Packet proves to be a valuable resource. Each Committee member read its contents.

g.) Updating the City Tree Inventory— Director Bostedt’s inquiries are out to appropriate services as it is a much needed City record.

h.) 2021 Tree City **Growth** Award Update gave more license as to smaller City involvement; however, most of it remains large City Forestry department centered. Bostedt stated that 15 pts. are necessary to compete. TABLED.

i.) 2021 Annual Urban Forestry Conference (Virtual) February 21st, 22nd, and 23rd was observed by Director Bostedt, Chair Jeff Werner, and Seidl. It also brought in employees who do this work giving them some hands-on reminders and suggestions: they especially gained.

j.) Other City Website Ideas for Forestry Page— Intent is to include the Memorial Tree brochure and that information is available to the public @ City Hall concerning issues from planting to invasive species. Listing Committee members would encumber timely maintenance of the site.

* Jan. 2022 Adm. Perrizo will be in charge of website updates.

8.) Next Meeting Date/Time: **Wednesday, April 21, 22, or 23 @ 8 a.m.** Director Bostedt will inform Committee members of the final selected date.

Agenda Items: Finalize 2021 6th Grade Arbor Day Celebration Visit/Planting and **DATES**
2021 Tree City **Growth Award** Update

9.) **Badendick acknowledged adjournment @ 9:33 a.m. Seidl called for the second.** (M/C)

Minutes submitted by
Susan K. Seidl