
Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes reviewed and approved.

Review and Approval of A – M. Grassa present agenda and members approved as proposed.

Public Comments - None

Tree Board Leadership Positions - Nominations for Tree Board Secretary and Chairperson were facilitated by D. Hennen. M. Schneider agreed to help out with taking meeting minutes. No one wanted to step up for chairperson role. Board Members please keep thinking about this and consider stepping up to relieve M. Grassa in the near future.

Grant Information - T. Losey reported that DTE Grant is one she will pursue. M. Baumgarten was happy to hear we were interested in seeking grants. If we prepare in advance we then give the grant proposal to the city for review and submission. Discussed the Tree City USA Award and the Growth Award requirements need to include other things than past years and new and innovative ideas. We have to be different year after year in five to six categories. D. Schueller said he received notification from the state that our Tree City USA Award has been approved and now it is off to Arbor Day Foundation in Nebraska for final approval. T. Losey also reminded us that in September there will be grants available for a tree inventory if we want to submit one or more for that purpose.

Tree Survey Information – JH Hart’s Invoice are available and may be able to help us start the tree survey but not enough detail about the trees to complete a city survey. These may be useful in providing us some information to help take steps for new tree planting. All invoices are scanned into the city system and we could access them as needed. If tree trimming records could give us block by block information that would be helpful to us in developing a tree inventory. K. Karlis feels that the old information plus the invoices could help us begin the tree survey. T. Losey found a mobile tree application that may be helpful in taking our inventory. This is from the USDA Forestry Service. However, we feel the current City GIS system will be able to support this initiative. We need volunteers to walk throughout the city to take this inventory. The City has the iPad’s that are used daily for water system and these could be used for this project. The Tree Board Members or volunteers would need training. It may be a good idea to have the City Arborist do this or another arborist. Photos can be added to the GIS and identified by a professional. Ferndale uses Davey Tree for their survey. Could Hart build the survey as they go through the trimming process? It would take a bit longer to get through this as we would wait until Hart completes all of the City tree trimming. D. Schueller will talk with Jude Hart about their interest in this project. Then DPW would keep the system up-to-date as trees a taken down and planted annually.
DPW Director Report - D. Schueller shared a message with us from JH Hart about how they appreciate working with the City of Berkley. He mentioned how during the windy period we had over the past weeks there were very few trees done due to the trimming that has been ongoing. Good report for the City. Very few reports of problems with branches or trees falling on personal property. Thanks JH Hart!

Arbor Day Spring 2019 – M. Grassa reminded the Board that the Arbor Day festivities will be held on Thursday, April 25, 2019. She has confirmed with M. Church that Tale on the Trail will be held at Jaycee Park at 6 p.m. and we will also do our annual tree planting. Parks and Rec will help choose the location. D. Schueller will complete the Arbor Day Resolution and take to City Council on April 1, 2019. We will plant 3 trees at this location.

Library Display – In April 2019 there will be an Arbor Day display at the Library as we have had in past years. M. Schneider reported that she spoke with the 3rd grade class at Angell to help with the display. The students will create the leaves and M. Schneider will place them on the display. M. Schneider wants to put information on the display about the Fall 2019 planting as well as some photos of what they look like in maturity. Even drawings of trees and the growth rate might be helpful. She will put some good tree planting tips on the board. It is important to take photos of the display so we can use it at the end of the year awards and reports. DTE might have a scale for trees at we plant each year. M. Grassa and K. Wilt offered to help M. Schneider installing the display.

City Master Plan and Budget – D. Henna announced that they are just beginning the Master Plan process for the City. He encouraged the Board Members to watch the planning process which is now available on Berkley Public Television.

Other Business – The Berkley resident who planted 5 trees last fall would like us to come out and talk to her about taking care of her trees. We could send a care pack off to her. M. Grassa will figure out how to best help this resident and let us know how we can support her.

REMINDER – Thanks M. Schneider for stepping up to help with taking meeting minutes, Bob appreciate your support. Still looking for a member(s) to step up as Chair for Margaret. Please considering doing this for a little while, we will still be on the Board to support you!

Next meeting will be on Monday, April 8, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Berkley City Library

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

2019 Meeting Schedule:
May 13, 2019
June 10, 2019
July 8, 2018
August 12, 2019
September 9, 2019
October 14, 2019
Tuesday, November 12, 2019 Due to Veteran's Day on Monday November 11, 2019
December 2019 – No Meeting – Holiday Parade