



**Tuesday, July 30, 2019, 4:00 pm
City Greenhouse**

Members Present: Jim Arthur, John Parker, Commissioner Dave Waddington

Staff Present: Todd Gibson, Nate Leimeister, Tom Speir, Melissa Vassallo

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm.

The June 25th meeting minutes were tabled until the August meeting due to the chairperson not being in attendance.

Old Business:

The group talked about the bid that was accepted for the GLRI plantings. Barnes Nursery was the lowest bidder. Todd Gibson let the members know that they were so low that we should be able to add around 150 tree plantings to the 270 that were already sited. A meeting will take place in August to go over suggestions for those additional 150 locations. Todd also told them that due to the increased number of trees, Aaron Klein will be filing for an extension of the grant. The grant currently states that the trees have to be planted by end of 2019. But he will try to extend it through the spring of 2020. Jim Arthur added that he thinks Barnes does a very good job planting.

The \$5,000 donation plantings might become a spring 2020 project. Todd asked Tom what is the final deadline in which trees need to be ordered. Tom responded early September. Tom also said if we do not plant until spring 2020, the trees can be stored and watered at the Greenhouse until we are ready for them.

New Business:

Jim told everyone he and the Greenhouse seasonal, Jackson, have been doing an extreme amount of watering lately. He asked what the plan is for watering and maintenance of all the new trees that will be planted. He said some trees at Dorn Park need to be restaked. Also, a resident on Gartland Avenue asked for a reduction in her water bill due to the fact that they are watering City trees. Jim said he has an idea to help with the watering of the new trees. He suggested we find a company, possibly Thorworks, to donate 5 gallon buckets. Then the residents would just need to fill the bucket once a week. Tom Speir let Jim know that over half of the new trees will be in City parks, not on residential boulevards.

Todd told the members he is in the process of handling the tree grate issue downtown. The Planning Department is also working on a Streetscape plan so he is in no hurry to do plantings in the downtown area right now.

The next Tree Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27th, 2019 at 4:00 pm at Dockside Café (weather permitting).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm.

Cynthia Ball
Chairperson

Melissa Vassallo
Clerk