



Meeting Minutes
Ladd Arboretum Committee
Monday, July 21, 2014
7:00pm
Evanston Ecology Center

Members Present: Virginia Beatty, Pam Johnson, Jim LaRochelle, Louise Taylor

Members Absent: Barbara DeCoster, Tracy Hubbard

Staff Present: Paul D'Agostino, Assistant Director Parks/Forestry, Beth Cullen, Clerk III

Guests: Charles Smith, Jan MacDermid

Presiding Member: Virginia Beatty

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Virginia Beatty at 7:05pm and a quorum was present only for part of the meeting.

2. Approval of March 3, March 17 and June 2, 2014 Board Minutes

No quorum at this time

3. Staff Reports

- A public tree inventory including the Arboretum was completed by Davey Tree. This includes location, size (DBH or diameter at breast height) and condition in a geographic information database. At future time will have work on the tree noted as well. This will eventually be on the City website so anyone can look up a tree and possibly add a comment. The Committee was delighted with this news.
- The Pollinator Project work is mostly done. Several plugs were held in reserve and planted in the front of the Ecology Center. Weeding and watering is being done by the City. New River Birch is tagged and waiting to be planted in cooler weather. Mr. LaRochelle said the pollinator gardens look good.

4. New Business

- Ms. Beatty prepared several reports for the LAC. These looked at the accomplishments of the past year, what work still needs to be done, historical documentation and email. Discussion ensued about maintenance of approved projects and examined projects not maintained.

5. Unfinished Business

- There are 400-500 plugs on hold to be used as fill-ins for the Pollinator Project.
- The River Birch that was originally in the front of the Ecology Center was moved to a low area behind the Civic Center.
- A punch list for the contractor of the Bridge Street bridge is to be scheduled.
- The Eagle Scout project was discussed with concerns about the size and height of the steps expressed by the committee.
- The repairs of the Aspregren Gazebo are ongoing. The benches are repaired and there are no more bees.
- Tree replacement was discussed. This is both trees removed for construction and loss of memorial trees and their markers. The dedicated Larch was also mentioned.
- There are some broken limbs in the Arboretum and nearby Twiggs Park that need attention.

Ms. Beatty noted she was disturbed by the lack of respect for the Ladd Arboretum Committee. The City has not been forthcoming with the Committee, and stated the Arboretum is worth working for.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 8:28pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Ladd Arboretum Committee will be September 15, 2014 at 7PM at the Evanston Ecology Center.

Minutes respectfully submitted for approval by:
Beth Cullen, Clerk III Evanston Ecology Center