

Dallas Center Tree Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 7:00pm
Meeting location: Roy R. Estle Memorial Library

Tree Board members present:

Gary Park, Chair
Larry Davis, Vice Chair
Greg Cagle, Secretary
Andy Schmitz, ex officio member
Bob German, ex officio member
Brian Slaughter, ex officio member
Mary Werch, Liaison from Parks and Recreation

Gary Park called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Public communications and concerns: No members of the public present.

Motion by Davis, second by Park to approve the minutes of the November 14th meeting. Motion passed 3-0.

Brian Slaughter reported that the contracted maintenance work on the right-of-way trees in the northwest quadrant has not started yet. It should hopefully begin in the next few weeks, depending on weather.

Gary reported that our Tree City USA application was accepted and approved.

The city council has given permission to proceed with the Trees Forever grant application. Andy will look into reserving trees for the site at 13th and Sycamore. Gary will finalize the application.

The Healthy Hometown Steering Committee met on November 28th to identify and prioritize tactics to encourage healthy living by eating well, moving more and feeling better. One area of interest to the group is adding trees to the downtown streetscape. There may be areas of the project where the Healthy Hometown committee and the Tree Board can work together.

The board discussed what has been learned so far with regard to best practices for planting trees in downtown areas, and plans to continue gathering additional information. Andy will contact Dr. Ed Gilman at the University of Florida and Greg will contact Emma Hanigan at the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Mary reported that the Parks Board plans to plant some new trees near the trail in the Burnett Complex.

The board discussed possibilities for a tree promotion in conjunction with Dallas Center's sesquicentennial this year. The consensus was that a small ornamental tree might attract more participation than a large shade tree because homeowners would be more likely to have room for it. Andy will try to find a source for bare root Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry trees.

Future meetings are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, February 6th, 2018 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm
Wednesday, March 13th, 2018 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm
Wednesday, April 10th, 2018 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.