

Dallas Center Tree Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 7:00pm
Meeting location: Roy R. Estle Memorial Library

Tree Board members present:

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

Guests:

Bob Veenstra, Veenstra & Kimm Inc.

Larry Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

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

The board discussed the current concept drawing for downtown trees with Bob Veenstra. He indicated that in general it appeared to be a good plan, and that he agrees with creating an unpaved island for each tree out of two parking spaces. He suggested taking a soil boring to a depth of 15 feet at each end of the 1400 block of Walnut Street. Doing so will allow us to assess soil quality, compaction, ground water and drainage, which will help determine the type and extent of soil remediation needed. He mentioned that older streets like Walnut were often built over relatively uncompacted soil due to the limitations of the available technology at the time, so Silva Cells may be unnecessary. Brian Slaughter will solicit proposals for soil boring from Construction Materials Testing and from Team Services.

Motion by Davis, second by Cagle to approve the minutes of the February 6th meeting. Motion passed 2-0.

Brian Slaughter reported that the contracted maintenance work on the right-of-way trees in the northwest quadrant has not started yet.

Andy reported that the serviceberry seedlings for the sesquicentennial tree promotion have been ordered, and should be arriving soon. He also reported that the Brenton Arboretum applied for and received a Trees for Communities grant from the Iowa DNR, and will be partnering with Dallas Center to give several varieties of seedlings away to area residents. These will include Red Oak, Swamp White Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Bur Oak, Shagbark Hickory, Shellbark Hickory, Sycamore and Hackberry. The seedlings are expected to arrive in time for the tree giveaway and Arbor Day celebration on the morning of April 27th at the gazebo in Mound Park.

The board will look into promoting the tree giveaway via the city newsletter and emails, Facebook and any other available media.

Future meetings are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, April 10th, 2019 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm
Wednesday, May 8th, 2019 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm
Wednesday, June 12th, 2019 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm.