

Dallas Center Tree Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 7:00pm
Meeting location: Roy R. Estle Memorial Library

Tree Board members present:

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

Gary Park called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Public communications and concerns: Dan Jones of 1303 Ash Street informed the board that a maple tree in the right of way at his house fell in a recent storm, and requested that the board consider planting a new tree in that location. While available funds for fiscal year 2018-19 will probably not allow planting a tree there this spring, the board agreed to try for the fall.

Motion by Park, second by Cagle to approve the minutes of the April 10th meeting. Motion passed 2-0.

The board continued its discussion of the potential project to plant trees in the 1400 block of Walnut Street. Greg presented an updated sketch with shrub gardens and benches. Gary will discuss the current ideas with the city council at their next meeting and request feedback.

Brian Slaughter reported that the contracted maintenance work on right-of-way trees in the northwest quadrant of town is complete.

The board reviewed the sesquicentennial tree giveaway and Arbor Day celebration that was held on April 27th. The event was very successful. We had a large turnout, and gave away all 60 of the sesquicentennial serviceberry trees in the first hour. We also gave away all 200 trees that were received through the Iowa DNR Trees for Communities grant, which included red oak, swamp white oak, chinkapin oak, bur oak, shagbark hickory, shellbark hickory, sycamore and hackberry. Our thanks to Mike Buckalew for pitching in to help fill tree orders.

Andy reported that the spring tree planting is complete. 8 trees were planted in the green space in the southeast corner of 13th St. and Sycamore St., including 3 Amur maackias, 2 northern catalpas, 1 red oak, 1 bur oak and 1 swamp white oak. We are grateful for the Trees Forever grant supporting that project. In addition, Firestarter Black Gum trees were planted at 1701 Walnut St. and 107 14th St.

Future meetings are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, June 12th, 2019 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm
Wednesday, July 10th, 2019 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 7:00pm
Wednesday, August 7th, 2019 – Roy R. Estle Memorial Library, 6:00pm (tree survey)

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.