

Dallas Center Tree Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 7:00pm

The Dallas Center Tree Board met in electronic meeting via conference call on October 14, 2020 at 7:00pm due to Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds' September 18, 2020, updated Proclamation of Disaster Emergency, which among other matters, encouraged all vulnerable Iowans to limit their activities outside of their home including their participation in gatherings of any size and any purpose. The Governor's Proclamation allows a community gathering (such as a public meeting) of more than ten persons so long as the venue capacity is limited and social distancing of at least six feet is maintained. The Governor further suspended state laws requiring a public meeting or hearing to the extent the laws could be interpreted to prevent a governmental body from limiting the number of people present for an in-person location of the meeting, providing the governmental body provides a means for the public to participate by telephone or electronically.

Tree Board members present for the electronic meeting:

Gary Park, Chair
Hannah Slaughter, Vice Chair
Greg Cagle, Secretary
Bob German, ex officio member
Andy Schmitz, ex officio member
Mary Werch, liaison from Parks and Recreation

Absent:

Brian Slaughter, ex officio member

Gary Park called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Public communications and concerns: Hannah indicated that she had heard from Neil and Amber Nelson at 1505 Sycamore expressing concern about multiple trees possibly located in the right-of-way that may be in poor health. Andy volunteered to take a look at them.

Motion by Gary Park, second by Hannah Slaughter to approve the minutes of the September 9th meeting. Roll call all ayes, motion passed.

Gary reported that ISG is setting up a stakeholder group to consult for the Walnut Street Streetscape Project. The Tree Board will be a stakeholder.

Current status on tree removals that the board recommended following the August tree inspection is that none of the work has been scheduled yet. Tree service companies are very busy.

Andy reported that 7 Norway Spruce trees were planted at Raccoon Valley Bank last week.

The trees for the Trees Forever grant Parks Board project in the Burnett Complex were also planted last week. Plantings included 6 crabapples, 4 hackberries, 2 catalpas, 2 sycamores, 1 red oak, 1 swamp white oak.

Andy has ordered 50 Seven-Son Flower Tree seedlings for the spring tree giveaway. They will be shipped in April.

Future meetings are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 – 7:00pm, location to be determined
Wednesday, January 13th, 2021 – 7:00pm, location to be determined
Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 – 7:00pm, location to be determined

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.