

Agenda

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MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Barn at Frenchy's Field
Corner of Osage and Agua Fria
Tuesday March 20, 2012
5:00 -6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from 01/17/2012.
5. Old Business – Robert Wood
 - Tree City USA Growth Award Application/Award
 - Tree City USA Growth Award, planning process for 2012
 - √ Open discussion with review and identification of targeted goals
6. New Business – Robert Wood
 - Think Trees Attendance
 1. Attendance
 2. CEU's
 3. Funding sources/ Quality of Life status
7. Board Member Status. Invited members statements
8. Public Comments
9. Confirm date and time for the next meeting

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INDEX OF
CITY OF SANTA FE
MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION

MARCH 20, 2012

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>	<u>PAGE(S)</u>
1. CALL TO ORDER		1
2. ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved	1
4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES January 21, 2012	Postponed	1
5. OLD BUSINESS		
• Tree City USA Growth Award Application/Award	Discussed	2
• Tree City USA Growth Award, Planning 2012 ✓ Open discussion with review and id of targeted goals	Discussed	2
6. NEW BUSINESS		
1. Think Trees Attendance		
1. Attendance	Discussed	3
2. CEU's	Discussed	3
3. Funding sources/ Quality of Life status	Discussed	3
7. BOARD MEMBER STATUS- Candidate Statements	Discussed	3-6
8. PUBLIC COMMENTS	None	6
9. DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING	April 17, 2012	6
10. ADJOURN	5:56 p.m.	6

**MEETING MINUTES
FOR THE
CITY OF SANTA FE MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Municipal Tree Board, a subcommittee of the Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Patrick Torres on this date at approximately 5:00 p.m. at Frenchy's Barn, Corner of Osage and Agua Fria, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Patrick Torres, Chair
Sandra Taylor

Members Absent

Staff Present

Robert Wood, IPM Program Manager

Others Present

Tracy Neal, candidate for Board
Paul Navrot, candidate for Board
Zander Evans, candidate for Board
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Taylor moved to approve the Agenda as published. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of January 17, 2012

Ms. Taylor moved to approve the Minutes of January 17, 2012 as presented. Mr. Torres seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- Tree City USA Growth Award Application/Award

Mr. Wood said the Tree City USA Growth Award and the application were approved for the third year.

- Tree City USA Growth Award, Planning Process for 2012
 - ✓ Open discussion with review and identification of targeted goals

Mr. Wood said the City of Rio Rancho is not a Tree City USA and he is assisting them and that would qualify as one of the goals for next year. He said Rio Rancho anticipates doing what Santa Fe has and develop a Parks Advisory Board. He has been in touch with Jay Hurt in Rio Rancho and the discussion is ongoing.

He said next year's Growth Award would be an educational process for the Board with an on-line Tree Board University that offers a self addressed training process that takes several hours.

Mr. Wood said also as part of their public education process, separate community events for training the public would be done in 2012.

Mr. Wood said another part of Tree City is the planting. He said last year the Baca Street connection was done successfully and this year a two month long process would be done.

He said he would have an event on Arbor Day and possibly do plantings along the new trail behind Frenchy's. He noticed that other groups like Earth Guardians would also do planting this month but he doesn't know the location.

Photographs of unplanted areas along the river were passed around. Seedlings are ordered from New Mexico Forestry of riparian packages with about 500 trees that are about 9 inches tall. Mr. Wood said that would satisfy the Growth Award educational process. He noted that some of the Quality of Life money could be used for attendance to local training.

Ms. Taylor confirmed that the in-house training would continue with the Quality of Life money.

Mr. Wood said the in-house training would continue with money and some money would be used to secure a lap top computer for security cameras. He said the lap top could be used for in-house training and a PowerPoint projector would also be purchased. He said the chain saw safety training would be held once a month because of incidents.

Mr. Wood said he and State Forester Kelly Washburn would do certified arborists training in basic tree operations. City contracts for tree pruning under \$5,000 specify that a certified Arborist be on staff and on location and the contract has been extended.

Ms. Taylor said she appreciated the nice publicity the New Mexican had about the Tree City award.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Think Trees Attendance**

1. Attendance- Fourteen Staff members attended Think Trees.
2. CEU's- Mr. Wood said he was the only certified arborist within the department currently and he hoped to have two additional Staff members take the test next year. He said he has qualified and is 35 CEUs over the 2013 requirement because he is testing for the Master Arborist next year.
3. Funding sources/ Quality of Life status- Mr. Wood said \$72,000 was received from Quality of Life again for 2012. He broke out the total funding; outside contractors- \$35,000; equipment rental/purchase- \$15,000 and about \$1500 for members to attend or register for conferences and training.

Mr. Wood explained the remaining money (\$20,000) was budgeted but in different categories; \$6,000 would go to direct tree plantings, tree give-a-ways and forestry seedlings. The first tree planting would be held Thursday at Ashbaugh Park and called for 1¼ inch trees and he upgraded to 2 inch caliber trees. A total of 20 trees would be planted to kick off Arbor Day.

He said other sites at Alvarado Park and Frenchy's Field are scheduled.

BOARD MEMBER STATUS- Candidate Statements of Interest (Exhibit 1)

The new members were asked to share information about themselves and why they were interested in being on the Board.

Zander Evans said he is a Forest Ecologist and works for the Forest Guild, a nonprofit national organization with professional foresters and other natural resource professionals.

Mr. Evans said he is the Research Director and his job is to collect information and synthesize information that is useful for professional foresters. Recently he worked on mixed conifer forests relevant to the Southwest. He currently works with the Santa Clara Pueblo to look at the affect on soil and surrounding trees and vegetation when a pile burn is done, like those in the watershed.

Mr. Evans said he lives in Santa Fe and has two small boys, four and seven. He likes to give back and thought the Tree Board was a way to contribute to the City, use his expertise and also gain new knowledge.

Paul Navrot said he is a recent graduate in landscape architecture and completed his Masters last May. He currently works with a school program in an elementary garden situation in Albuquerque.

Mr. Navrot said he looks forward to an opportunity to be part of the Board and could contribute in graphic communication or with other skills learned through his background in landscape design and

architecture. Mr. Navrot has worked for Payne's as well as Santa Fe Greenhouses in Santa Fe in sales and advised people about trees and shrubs and the proper installation and selection.

Ms. Taylor asked if he planned to work with the Rail Yard Stewards again.

Mr. Navrot said at the moment he had nothing confirmed. He said he did have plans for a heritage type program to describe things that are being cultivated in the gardens to the public.

Tracy Neal said he has been in Santa Fe for 26 years and worked in various nurseries in Albuquerque for 12 years before moving to Santa Fe. He ran the nursery at Santa Fe Greenhouses for nine years. He then started a landscaping company with a friend and did landscape design and installation for 16 years and now does consultation and design and has been busy pruning fruit trees.

Mr. Neal said he studied climate changes in Santa Fe and watching how things are changing since the 90's. In 2001 he wrote a recommended plant list that he is updating this year regarding what would work in Santa Fe in the future.

Mr. Neal said he is a certified arborist with a background in horticulture and design for the last 16 years, with a strong emphasis on trees.

Mr. Torres said Mr. Neal's list was distributed during the bark beetle epidemic.

Mr. Neal said he was an author for the County's list of trees and shrubs. He taught classes at the community college in the 80's and 90's, partly to educate the public because there were so many newcomers to Santa Fe who didn't know what to plant.

Mr. Wood said he hoped the Board would concentrate on the urban aspect. He said the urban forestry is different than any other because nothing is native and everything is imported. He said Santa Fe is different than a lot of areas in the country because it is an old, artistic community and there is an attitude that the trees are too beautiful to touch.

Mr. Wood talked about the difficulty in removing hazardous trees. He said he is doing evaluations in several areas and some trees would be a problem to remove because of public perception. He said he concentrates on replanting because there would be trees growing as trees were removed. He said educating people on what works and doesn't is one of his top priorities.

Ms. Taylor said she asked several people about what their reaction would be if a large tree on the Plaza had to be removed and there was hysteria. She said a couple of days later; one of the ladies called her and said after some thought it might be a good thing.

Ms. Taylor said education is a critical part.

The Board discussed the trees at the Plaza and the process and requirements for digging that led to expense for cultural surveys.

Mr. Wood explained there were restrictions in the Plaza regarding what could be planted in historical areas. The Plaza is designated as a perimeter planting and has to be "a stately perimeter of mature trees."

Mr. Torres reviewed the Tree City meeting dates and said the Board is required to meet a minimum of four times a year and the dates were set in the January meeting for 2012. He said even without a meeting in November the Board would have fulfilled their meeting requirements. He explained that the Tree City meeting dates piggy back on the Parks Advisory Commission meetings once a month.

Mr. Neal asked what the official mission of the Tree Board is.

Mr. Wood said the designated mission was for the Parks Board to come up with a tree management plan because of problems with hazard trees and in a roundabout way, Parks was directed to start an inventory. He said that started the realization that the urban forest canopy in the City is in decline and mature trees had been lost and not replanted.

Mr. Wood said that Santa Fe tree hazard management is at the top of the list. He hoped to expand the services to the City in the future. He said the tree giveaways had helped and Community Days was successful and people now come to find them. He said that they gave out 15 gallon; 6 foot and 12 foot trees and included planting and pruning instructions with each tree.

Mr. Neal asked if Mr. Wood had ever tried to recruit volunteers from people that came to plant the trees. He thought volunteers could be trained to take inventories and do things other than technical tree work.

Mr. Wood said he recruits through neighborhood groups more than a citywide effort because people care more about their neighborhoods. He has held classes at the Rail Yard and for community neighborhood groups. He said this year he would concentrate on neighborhood groups and next year on schools.

Ms. Taylor asked if the Board needs do anything to prepare for Arbor Day.

Mr. Wood said there would be several plantings between now and the end of April and volunteer plantings would be done mostly by neighborhood groups. He said he wanted the neighborhood groups to visit the trees they planted on a weekly basis.

Mr. Neal asked to be on Mr. Wood's e-mail list of the tree planting locations and dates. He said he would attend if possible.

Mr. Wood said in addition to public education; a lot of his work is in-house education on basics.

Mr. Navrot said Tree City USA described the Board as possessing a degree of legal responsibility. He asked what that means.

Mr. Wood said he thought the Board wouldn't qualify because they are an advisory board and reports as a subcommittee to an advisory board.

Mr. Wood said what the Board is legally responsible for is to make sure information they give is correct and appropriate for the area.

Mr. Torres explained the recommendation of candidates has to first go for approval to the Parks and Open Space Commission (POSAC) and then to City Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING- April 17, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Wood said he was happy with all three candidates and would ask that they attend as many meetings as possible and have the passion to get involved in the community.

ADJOURNMENT:

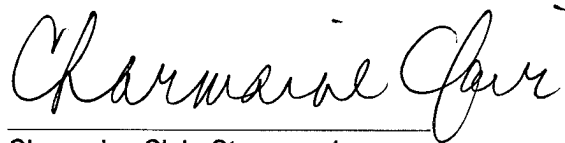
Ms. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Approved by:

Patrick Torres, Chair

Submitted by:



Charmaine Clair, Stenographer