

**SUMMARY OF ACTION
MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
THE BARN AT FRENCHY'S FIELD
2001 AGUA FRIA STREET
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017, 11:30 AM**

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**MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
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2001 AGUA FRIA STREET
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017, 11:30 am.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Municipal Tree Board was called to order by Katherine O'Brien, Chair, at 11:30 am, on Wednesday, September 27, 2017, at the Barn at Frenchy's Field, 2001 Agua Fria Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Katherine O'Brien, Chair
Tracy Neal
Athena Beshur
Vacancy

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tom Dominguez, Excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Claudia Horn, Design Office
Pam Wolfe, Master Gardener (potential Board member)
Mary Schruben
Victor Lucero, IPM Manager, City of Santa Fe
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
AUGUST 23, 2017**

Mr. Neal said on page 2, the first paragraph, 5th line change she to Ms. Beshur.

Chair O'Brien and Ms. Beshur asked that the last sentence from Ms. Beshur be

deleted.

Mr. Neal said on page 5, 1st paragraph, it should say Ms. Beshur.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to approve the minutes as amended.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. TREE INVENTORY PROJECT

Ms. Beshur reported that the project is still going strong. Claudia has agreed to be a tree identifier and we have a couple of new ones from the workshop. We are still on Franklin Miles. There were just 2 of us on Saturday, but we got 25 trees done. We are hoping to get through that one and a couple of small parks before the season ends. There is a session this afternoon at Franklin Miles if we do not get rained out. It will take that one and one more to finish. She wanted to add that the dividing line between the Park and the Skate Park is not defined. She spoke to the Watershed Association and now that we have more trained folks they will start signing up for sessions again. That will be more community volunteers. Master Gardeners will be the leaders.

Chair O'Brien said she went to the Thomas Macaione Park Adopt-a-Park ceremony where the Central Rotary Club adopted that park. It was very nice.

Ms. Beshur said she spoke to that club last year and now that they have adopted she would like to bring an inventory over there.

Chair O'Brien asked in our selection of parks to inventory do we want to work with the City on the parks that are being adopted. It would be a good partnership. About 6 members of Rotary were at the ceremony. The Rotary members were excited about what the City could offer them to improve the park. It seems it would be good to work with members that are excited.

Ms. Beshur said we should work with the organizations that adopt the park and find out what timing works with them instead of using our standard days for inventories. Macaione is a small park.

Chair O'Brien said 8 parks have been adopted. This project and our inventory project are both ongoing.

Ms. Wolfe asked would it be more helpful to think of it as a health and monitoring program for trees.

Mr. Lucero said it is a death sentence.

Ms. Horn said she will have to go, but will try to be at your next meeting.

Chair O'Brien said thank you for coming.

Mr. Lucero said he has not seen the Ash White Fly in as great a number this year. He did take some photos on the 18th of this month of females laying eggs. They are still here.

Ms. Schruben asked these are on leaves.

Mr. Lucero said yes.

Mr. Neal asked if they don't develop to full adults this fall will they stay on the leaves and develop next year.

Mr. Lucero said he is not sure. They can find a host to over winter on in some types of plants. They are surviving. He sent off to Dr. Sutherland some parasitoids that he collected.

Mr. Lucero said regarding the Japanese Beetle, we have been setting traps for them with the County Extension Office. He showed the Board the locations of the data sets. These were placed on September 8th and we are checking them once a week. This was spurred on by some finds in Sandoval County most recently. Dr. Sutherland asked us to help out in surveying. They did find some in Sandoval County this year.

Ms. Schruben asked what do the traps look like and where are they placed.

Mr. Lucero said he can send her some specific information. They are cylinders and are yellow and orange. They are 4 times the size of a water bottle. We will be running these through the end of September and hopefully next year. They are reusable traps. They just need new pheromones. The fall Web Worm occurs at this time of year. Don't prune out the huge branch it is on, just wait it out. There are less this year than last.

Mr. Neal asked on the Ash White Fly wouldn't the cold normally kill them.

Mr. Lucero said he has no idea. The first occurrence of this animal was in 1988 in Florida, and then they moved all over from there. They do serious damage in Las Cruces. They have been here for many years.

Ms. Beshur said she has heard that for the Pinon Moth she is seeing a lot of sap coming out of the Pinons and is expecting the Pinon Pitch Moth. Is this the time to take the pitch off.

Mr. Lucero said you can do that. It could be some stress. He has not seen any. Has seen Pinon Needle Scale.

Ms. Beshur said she is also seeing reddish parts of the bark on Pinons where it seems stressed. There are cracks in the bark.

Mr. Lucero said he will have to look at some. It could be due to moisture stress and the demands on the branches and foliage when there is a small canopy.

Mr. Neal said he has been looking at Pinons with thin a silvery sap stream. What is that from.

Mr. Lucero said if you have not found any insects it has to be stress induced. Pine trees with sufficient sap flow can mitigate Bark Beetles. It could be a response to an attack.

Ms. Beshur said regarding the Peach Tree Borer someone told her if the sap is clear coming out of a fruit tree that is fine, but if it reddish or dark the tree is likely to have a borer.

Mr. Lucero said he has never heard that before.

C. PARC UPDATE

Chair O'Brien said she attended the PARC meeting last week. It was interesting that we did the tree identifier workshop at Ashbaugh Park. They had a presentation from an MPO Planner, Eric Aune, who informed them that they are designing a bicycle playground at Ashbaugh Park. It will be focusing on interesting things that bicycles can do and is directing toward youth. The same organization is having installations of art bike racks downtown to promote bicycle riding in Santa Fe.

Ms. Beshur said in San Antonio they have pillars with tools you can use on bikes and an air hose for bicycle tires. She will share that idea with Mr. Aune.

Chair O'Brien said they also voted to approve a Resolution that will go to the City Council to have free walls for graffiti art to allow free expression.

D. CITY PARKS MASTER PLAN

Chair O'Brien reported that Rob Carter was at the PARC meeting. She told him that the Tree Board wants to look at the Master Plan and have input. Rob said he would contact the consultants which he did and he finally got a response from Phyllis Taylor. She said the draft will be ready in 2 weeks. At that time we could meet and look at it. If anyone wants to meet please let her know and she will set it up with Ms. Taylor.

Ms. Beshur said she would have to read it before making comments on it. Maybe they could email it to us.

Mr. Neal said yes, 2 weeks before hand.

Chair O'Brien said they are under a time crunch. They are presenting it to the first City Council meeting in December.

Mr. Neal said he and Chair O'Brien have been trying to get a copy of their working document.

Chair O'Brien said we need to keep pushing on this.

E. NEW BOARD MEMBER

Ms. Wolfe said she is a Bio Statistician and has been a Master Gardener for a couple of years. She did native plant training this past spring. She is very interested in insects and helped hang the Japanese Beetle traps. She is interested in plants and trees, but wonders if it is frustrating to chase down information. Do you have a lot of that.

Mr. Neal said there is not so much of that. He has been on this Board for some years. The most frustrating thing is looking at City parks and not seeing trees get the water they need or that are damaged from weed whackers and we tell Richard Thompson and the response is we don't have enough people or a budget to do it. That is the frustration.

Ms. Wolfe said so it is difficult to get something done.

Chair O'Brien said we are an Advisory Committee. We are here to get information to PARC and the City Parks Department of what we see and what needs to happen. We are doing that beautifully. There is hope. We started the inventory that was talked about for years. We are doing it.

Ms. Wolfe asked are there opportunities for education.

Ms. Beshur said with the tree inventory by incorporating GIS data where anyone in the City can look at a tree and see where they are and under what tree.

Mr. Neal said if we had these visual aids, such as a tree book, electronically people could go to any park and figure out what they are looking at.

Ms. Beshur said your interest in photography will be a huge asset. Tree Boards Nationally are made up of people of different backgrounds. We all have the same background and we need diversity. Patience is essential.

Chair O'Brien said we are advisory and that is our main function. The main requirement is attendance. Tom often is unable to attend. Also you need to have email. What she is getting for this is learning how the City works and she feels more involved with the City. We do have a voice.

Mr. Neal said he would love it if we could get into more educational things. We have a lot of knowledge if we have the resources.

Chair O'Brien said if we work with the City on the Adopt A Park program that is good. We don't all have a lot of time to devote just ourselves to a project. We can help guide the Parks Department in whatever they want to do.

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Beshur, seconded by Mr. Neal, to recommend to PARC that Pamela Wolfe be appointed to the Municipal Tree Board.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Chair O'Brien congratulated Ms. Wolfe.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. LONG TERM PLAN FOR TREE BOARD

Chair O'Brien said Tom Dominguez asked us to discuss this. She would like the Board members to think about that and she will put it on next month's agenda. Please come prepared to discuss it. Look at your documents with the Tree Board goals for 2017 in mind. Plus the vision statement. She will send the mission statement, Resolution and goals out to everyone.

Chair O'Brien said the City has a Tree Board because they want to be a Tree City USA. Mr. Carter said they are putting in their budget an Urban Forrester and Irrigation Specialist.

Ms. Beshur said it might be helpful for Pam to know that there is a Tree Board University online course. We have all gone through the program. She can forward Pam the link. It is helpful and a primer of the standard Tree Board.

B. STRUCTURAL PRUNING INSTRUCTION

Chair O'Brien said when she was at the tree identifier workshop one of the

Master Gardeners brought up that pruning was needed on the trees we were looking at. We thought that Parks should do structural pruning. The Master Gardener thought a group of Master Gardeners could come out and do that at a park with a City employee. She sent that suggestion to Richard Thompson and he thought that was great idea. What does the Tree Board think about that. This would be another project for us. We could sponsor this. It would be small trees only.

Mr. Lucero said it would address issues early on for the tree growth.

Chair O'Brien asked when do the Master Gardener leaders meet to take on projects for next year.

Ms. Beshur said it is not an easy process to get a project approved. The Master Gardeners have a lot of projects already. Her feeling on this is yes, the trees are badly in need of being cared for in a professional manner. That is why we want City staff invited to tree inventories. City staff should be trained on this. Every single tree we look at need pruning. Some are big pruning jobs.

Chair O'Brien said structural pruning is dealing with very young trees.

Ms. Beshur said we could put our efforts more toward doing a demonstration of planting new trees and training on structural pruning. Or have it be a post project that is after a park has been inventoried. To create a whole new project for the Maser Gardeners is a lot.

Chair O'Brien said her question was when do they decide about projects.

Ms. Beshur said you can bring it before the Board at any time. Our projects are formed at the beginning of the year so this is the time of the year to do it.

Ms. Wolfe said Linda Fleming is the person you present a proposal for a project to. What you are describing is a continuing education project. Her thought is if you have a tree pruning workshop that lots of Master Gardeners would sign up to get continuing education credit. It might be worthwhile to train several people on small trees to the level of knowledge Tracy has. Then have them do a continuing education kind of workshop and have the workshop where there are trees to prune and do it for several years in a row.

Mr. Neal asked is there anything in the Master Gardeners course about pruning trees.

Ms. Wolfe said yes. In one of the 17 week classes there are several pages about how to prune a tree. You could expand on that. Tom does a pruning workshop every year.

Chair O'Brien asked you do one at the Botanical Garden.

Mr. Neal said yes about orchards. The concept of doing a workshop to do structural pruning is really good.

Ms. Beshur said instead of a whole project do this as an education workshop twice a year maybe.

Ms. Schruben said she thinks you should contact Richard to find out which parks they have put new trees in the last 2 years that will be in need of structural pruning. It may be that he can give you to Jason who can give you the plans for those parks and tell you where the trees are. Then target those trees in the workshop. Invite City staff.

Chair O'Brien said the City needs to get involved in the training.

Ms. Beshur said she likes the idea the way it is evolving. It ties in with Arbor Day because we can recommend that 8 trees are put in a park and then the workshop can be there the following year.

Chair O'Brien said that is a good idea.

Mr. Neal said we have had conversations with Richard Thompson about having some of the people on his Parks staff trained as arborists. They do not have a trained pruning staff in the City Parks Department. It could help Richard if there is a person who wants to take on being an arborists that could come to the training.

Ms. Wolfe said they could also attend the Tree 3 hours session with the Master Gardener program as well. The City really needs to get some support on this. She does not want Master Gardeners taking over the City parks.

Ms. Beshur said we can look at the inventories for next spring and see where there are some small trees to prune.

Ms. Schruben said there is a whole string in Ragle.

Ms. Wolfe said to set up a workshop do it with an eblast to all the Master Gardeners and ask them to sign up for this to get continuing education credits. Master Gardeners has to approve it for credit. Talk to Tom Dominguez and Ann Lawhorn.

Ms. Beshur said we could treat it the same way as the way she did the tree identifier workshop. It is directly related to the project. We could just do that.

Ms. Wolfe said yes, set it up through the tree inventory. It is already approved for credits.

Chair O'Brien said there are a lot of good ideas. We will see how this works out.

Mr. Neal said from the standpoint of tree health he suggests we do the workshop in February or March.

Ms. Beshur said she will put it on the agenda for next month.

C. STORMWATER COLLECTION

Chair O'Brien said there was a stormwater session last night.

Ms. Beshur said she went and they took a lot of suggestions. She suggested that they start acquiring large parcels of land for stormwater collection and urban forestry. 30 to 50 acres are needed for an urban forestry hub. Collection would go into the permeable surface of the hub.

Ms. Schruben said she is trying to pay attention in her neighborhood to the plans for the overlay of St. Michaels project. The street trees are dying mostly from lack of hydration. One of the things she thinks Matt will consider is when a parking lot is redesigned that inside of that someplace the drainage be consolidated into a small green space as a refuge for trees, bushes, tables and chairs. The whole thing would be skirted by rain garden water filtration. We don't have any land owners interested in this yet. She is nervous about the projects they have lined up for St. Michaels. That is just one overlay district. It is harder to do downtown because of the historic district. She thought the stormwater event was well attended.

Ms. Beshur said there were 53 people.

Ms. Schruben said there were 3 people there from the EPA who have hired a consultant who is going to be working with the City and the EPA.. This City was chosen to be a pilot project for stormwater projects due to Melessia's white paper. This is a long term project. We are going to be seeing some changes in town. People will be able to see differences. There is a lot of publicity and commitment from newspapers to publicize this. There is also City Council support and Water Conservation support. It was a great meeting. People got to say what they would like to see happening.

Mr. Neal asked did you hear anyone mention curb cuts for rain water into the parks.

Ms. Beshur said EPA is meeting with City staff today, They did a tour and saw the curb cuts.

D. CITY COUNCIL MULCH RESOLUTION

Chair O'Brien said Councilor Ives, through the Water Conservation Committee, wants to explore doing a Resolution for the Parks Department to use mulch when planting trees and plants. They would like us to work with them on that. We want to promote this right.

Mr. Neal said he would have to see the Resolution.

Ms. Beshur said one small technology is to use a mulch sponge. You go down 3 feet deep with mulch and compost near a tree.

Chair O'Brien asked do we want to proceed with this

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, that the Tree Board be involved in the creation of a Resolution encouraging the Parks Department to use appropriate City resources in the planting of trees in the parks.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

None.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Schruben said Sustainable Santa Fe has completed their business, the outline is created and the table of contents is done for the 2040 Carbon Neutral Plan. Each Board member is tasked with reading through the whole thing and making comments in an electronic format until end of October then all of that will be forwarded to the Brindle Group and they will finish up with their gap analysis and formatting. A final draft will be available in November and released to the public for comment and public comment sessions. The plan is to get a final to the City Council in January or February. The plan is deep and extensive. It is quite surprising to her that it actually came together. It is a plan that we can give to the new Mayor and City Council in March to say how do we implement this. She is advocating for the most critical aspect of implementation. It is going to be getting the existing City Department silos to break down and work with each other. She has heard this at public meetings a lot. It involves the rethinking of how things work. We will need cooperation with everyone. She hopes there will be no dissension or controversery about the 4 people who will be presented to the Council as new members of the Sustainability Board. One is her. She commends John Alejandro and his Supervisor for all the work they have done. They did an incredible job of pulling huge amounts of information together. There are 50 pages of links. It will be available at libraries as a reference guide. It will be evaluated every year


and updated annually. Other cities are waiting for our plan to be completed so that they can use it as a guide. There are 20 serious plans around the country.

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
OCTOBER 25, 2017 at 11:30**

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Katherine O'Brien, Chair



Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer