

LIVINGSTON TREE BOARD

REGULAR MEETING October 21, 2021, SACAGAWEA GAZEBO

MINUTES

Attendance: Marshall Swearingen, Lisa Harreld, Laurel Desnick, Dan Busch, Robin Addicott, Tom Shands

Approval of Minutes: No minutes available to approve.

Old Business:

- **Update on Tree City USA renewal** – Marshall will get the budget financial information to submit the grant to the Arbor Day Foundation. Also to be included are photographs from the Arbor Day Celebration and the proclamation.
- **Discuss Board strategic plan** – Lisa made a motion to approve the strategic plan. Marshall seconded. All in favor. The strategic plan will be submitted to the commission.
- **Discuss board priorities for 2022 budget cycle** - The board will prepare a budget recommendation letter to be submitted before the end of December. The letter will focus on describing priorities, including funds for an updated tree management plan, outreach programs, cost sharing efforts, recommendation to hire a seasonal hire to focus on watering trees already in the ground, to increase probability of new tree survival.

New Business:

- **Discuss upcoming annual report to city commission** – Next month bring ideas for the annual report. The annual report will include a list accomplishments in 2021.
- **Membership:**
 - Lisa's term ends this year. Will continue recruitment efforts through October
 - New application from Sarah Boyle. **Lisa made a motion to approve the application of Sarah Boyle. Laurel seconded. All in favor.**
- **Public comment** –
 - Dan reported that the city received a \$50,000 grant to remove hazardous trees and will start tree removal in November and plant new trees. The grant was received from the Montana Urban and Community Forestry Association.
 - Robin Addicott – PCEC continues its efforts to fundraise for tree donations. With the help of Susan Regele and Joel Amburst, they plan to purchase trees for Adopt a Tree program, beginning in the spring of 2022. They have a commitment from Shannon Holmes and the city to assist with the program. They could use help from the city to purchase trees at a wholesale rate.

- **Board comments –**
 - **Marshall** –The city manager sent out a letter August 31 dictating who board members can communicate with. The Tree board and other boards within the city are questioning the constitutionality of the directive.
 - **Tom** – Tom is going to review the ordinance for clarification of tree board authority and responsibilities.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm. Next meeting November 18, 2021 at noon at the Sacagawea Gazebo or zoom