

LIVINGSTON TREE BOARD

REGULAR MEETING April 15, 2021, SACAGAWEA GAZEBO

MINUTES

**Attendance:** Marshall Swearingen, Lisa Harreld, Andy Mitchell, Laurel Desnick, Rita Rozier, Susan Regele, Dan Busch, Maureen Lighthiser

**Approval of Minutes:** Laurel made a motion to approve the minutes from February 18, 2021. Maureen seconded. All in favor.

**New Business:**

- **Arbor Day Celebration – April 30, 1pm at Mars Park** – Dan and the roaming crew will have the holes dug and ready for the trees. The chosen trees are red maple, walnut, linden and autumn blaze. Educatio and Farm to School and the Livingston Home School Association will be present and participate in the celebration. Susan and Rita will host the children’s groups and have planned activities for the students.
- **Make a Stand Project Update** – Susan and Rita gave an update on their fundraising project. Donations will be accepted through PCEC. PCEC will track the donations and then cut a check to the city for the proceeds. The campaign will give a general message that the funds will be used for the “planting and care” of trees. The campaign will be open through Labor Day. The Tree Board will not directly manage the funds. Per Dan, the city will purchase trees in bulk to get the best bang for the buck.
- **Tree Planting Guide** – Tom has been working on the rough draft for the updated planting guide. The guide is thorough and well done and includes an updated list of suitable species for boulevards. The Tree Board would like the guide to be included on the city Tree Board web page. Andy made a motion to approve the Guide as reviewed by a web master for literacy. Lisa seconded. All in favor.
- **City Budget recommendation for FY2022** – The city is currently in the process of budget work. The Tree Board would like to have some input into request for trees and maintenance. There is a DNRC grant opportunity for a program development grant. Andy suggested the Tree Board include a request for funding specifically summer tree watering. He suggested asking for an additional \$10,000 for tree care and maintenance. Laurel made a motion to approve the budget recommendation, including the additional \$10,000 for watering and care of trees. Andy seconded. All in favor.

- **Board comments –**

- **Marshall** – Earth Day is April 22. There will be a celebration at 5:30pm. He also suggested we set up a tree scouting outing at the Bozeman trail connector. We will plan for this summer. He also recommended we submit an Op Ed in the Enterprise after the new web site is up and running.
- **Andy** – Park High is cleaning up the wood lot site next to the school. The site had become very overgrown and hazardous. They will be cleaning up and thinning out underbrush. It looks good so far. Andy also mentioned the Municipal Forestry Plan has been submitted to the city attorney. We will review on May 20.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm. Next meeting May 20 at noon at the Sacagawea Gazebo.