

Urban Forest Board Meeting minutes March 15, 2022

Meeting called to order at 1:05 PM by Chairman Bruce. Other board members present were Phil, Sharon, Linda, Charlie, and Kriss constituting a quorum. Also present was Arborist Trevor and George Everett of Main Street Butte.

Charlie reported no change in the financials for the past month. A motion was made to approve the last minutes from February, motion passed. Some of the goals from the Feb meeting will be fine tuned at this meeting.

Trevor reported that there will be an Arbor Day tree planting at Emma Park on May 27th. These are the five trees from the Arbor Day grant for this year. Fencing and wood chips for the edible food forest have been ordered. He believes that the delay in accounting from the Courthouse for the 2021 Program Development Grant (Copper Mtn Park) has been rectified and sent to DNRC. This will allow our current PDG application to continue in processing by DNRC. There was brief discussion about the urban tree inventory, but there was apparently a glitch in data retention so there are some issues to be solved there. For 2022 Trevor will do the updates on any new trees planted to assure that this information is captured. Around \$2000 will be spent from the County appropriation for trees around the Civic Center and Health Dept. There was some discussion about tree planting soil and compost and where to store it. Trevor will look into this further.

Linda made an extensive report on her work to set up an Arbor Day public event at the Front Street Station on April 29th. The event will include an invocation, proclamation, booths, giveaways, food, Smokey Bear, Public school kids' participation, Chamber of Commerce, Media coverage, and more. The event will be from 4 to 6 pm.

George reported that the Council of Commissioners awarded Main Street \$3500 from the Econ-Development fund for the purchase of uptown tree replacement and associated needs.

The logo discussion was tabled for now.

To finalize our 2022 goals, we revisited the draft from February and concluded with:

- Spend up to \$5000 for planting of trees on Harrison Ave.
- Begin investigating a June 2024 ballot request for a levy for the Urban Forest effort.
- Increase public awareness of the UFB activities.
- Inventory existing tree grates and install 10 new ones.
- Engage a person to update the urban forest inventory in necessary.
- Plant trees in any openings on Rowe Road and fix all water emitters.
- Monitor the administration's progress on the issue of street tree ownership and R/W.
- Prune at least 100 trees on Butte streets.
- Raise at least \$2000 from Silver Bow County businesses and corporations.
- Hold an Arbor Day event on April 29th.

Next meeting will be April 19th, 2022. We are hoping to have Jamie Kirby and Bob Lazzari in attendance.