

Minutes
City of Laurel
Tree Board
1/19/23

Council Conference Room

Attending: Michelle Mize, Walt Widdis, Paul Kober, Matt Wheeler Phone: LuAnne Engh

1. Public Input
 - a.
2. General Items
 - a. November minutes approved –
 - b. City balance \$843 for Arbor Day. School Balance \$220 Kurt is working on the DNRC grant of \$750
 - c. Arbor Day – May 2nd - **Heroes for Life** by Finley Watts. Walt will see about getting Finley in the paper closer to Arbor Day to give more exposure to how students are involved. We'll also give Finley a gift certificate from the committee.
 - d. Shirts through Dynamic were quoted at \$10.90 each with \$3 extra for XXL. Don came back to say the design requires more colors so it will be higher.
 - e. Laurel Foundation (Jon Rutt & Dave Bauer) are working on the Foundation connection. We need a contract signed and then they will upload our information on the website to collect donations or if people are interested in donating a memorial tree. LuAnne will apply for the Walmart grant through the Foundation too. Paul said he would contact Rotary and Cenex for donations.
 - f. Plaques – If Memorial trees are donated we discussed the plaque with the information. Walt suggested the family find their own plaque. It was also discussed that a uniform plaque approved by the committee would be more appealing.
 - g. Aaron has suggested we plant 5 new trees..most would replace trees that are nearly gone. Michelle suggested we plant some trees to help shade the new splash pad. Patrick (our city tree trimmer) could also give advice since he has taken care of the Thomson trees for several years and did the most recently trimming.
 - h. We have the tree list from Good Earth Works to consider as well as Rivers Edge.
 - i. Michelle will contact Richard Close for the Honor guard. Since we have bathrooms are the park we won't need the portables.
 - j. Edie Armstrong said she will make the sloppy joe lunch again with the SOW committee.
 - k. LuAnne will ask Lynn to speak again unless the Mayor would like to do the presentation.

- I. We need to contact the Laurel PTA for water for the kids unless they bring their own water bottles where we can have gallon jugs to refill. When it's cool they don't use much water.
- 3. Old Business
 - a. The LURA committee has started meeting again. There is also the downtown committee that wants to improve the downtown storefronts. Hopefully ideas will start flowing again to improve the commercial area.
 - b. The city is committed to the Splash Pad. \$150K is raised and hopefully by March construction will start.
- 4. Other Items
 - a. Volunteer hours – Keep your hours for all meetings, time spent on Arbor Day or any other project.
 - b. We only have 3 more meetings before our event. So everyone should be working on their responsibilities.

Next meeting Thursday, February 16th - 9:30 Council Conference room