

Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee

Meeting Minutes

Pendleton Town Hall
June 23, 2020

1. Meeting Called to order

- Meeting called to order by President Taylor Mets at 4:35 pm

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

- Jeanette Isbell Taylor Mets Jo Scott Linda Castor

A Quorum was established

Planning Staff member Rachel Christenson

3. Approval of Minutes

- Taylor Metz motion to approve Jo Scott 2nd motion
Motion was carried

4. OLD BUSINESS

Funding Requests

- South Madison Community Foundation Grant Funded 10,000.00
- Town and Park matching \$10,000
- IDNR-CUF Grant funded 20,000

TOTAL FUNDING \$40,000

5. TREE PLANTING PROJECT

- Project includes inventory update
- Management software with staff training
- \$23,000 worth of tree plantings
- Plantings will be in the spring and fall

- Contract was signed last week by Davey Resource Group

6. TREE INVENTORY

Rachel Christenson is working on getting the towns' current tree inventory data to Davey Resource Group. Davey's will be able to pick up exactly where the town left off right before the tornado hit. The risk assessment will give the town a good feel of what was actually lost. Rachel said it is a possibility the town will lose more trees in the next two or three years due to the tornado damage. Trees in public spaces will be captured and assessed by Davey's but in the north 40 of the park where it is wooded it will be a different caliber of assessment. Trees will be planted at different times with a diverse tree stock. The cemetery, all areas of the park and all street trees that are in the right of way will be captured. No time has been set yet for Davey's to start the capturing of the trees. Rachel should know something about the time frame by next meeting.

7. Arbor Day Foundation

- **FUNDED \$15,800.** The project includes 100 trees to plant in the park and 200 trees for private property owners. Rachel Christenson said there have been quite a few meetings about this in the last few weeks and there will be more updates on this project farther down the agenda.

8. MEMORIAL TREE PROGRAM

- Jeanette Isbell is the chair for this committee. The volunteers are Linda Castor, Christi Kelly, Denise McKee, Taylor Metz and possibly Kate Edwards.

- Donors of trees will have some options of what they want the plaques to say and how they are displayed. Sculptures could also be a possibility. Christi Kelly has done research on different types of signage and how to be placed on the tree. Jeanette Isbell said the park would probably prefer higher on the trees.

- Jeanette said that they do not know the cost of trees at this point so the donors would probably be notified of the total cost of the tree after the planting.

- With the loss of several trees in the cemetery Rachel thought with the memorial tree program in the park it would be good to extend it on out into the cemetery.

- Damaged trees in the cemetery is a concern because falling limbs could cause damage to the head stones.

9. 2020 TREE CITY USA GROWTH AWARD

- **To get growth award 10 extra points is needed**
- Rachel proposed rescheduling Pendleton Arbor Day Celebration with the Arbor Day Recovery Tree Planting. Doing these in conjunction all needed is reading an Arbor Day Proclamation at start of event and declare it Pendleton's Arbor Day. This can be used as our Tree City USA Application.
- **Tree wide community event will give us 4 points**
- **Tree inventory analysis program will give us 7 points**
- Memorial tree program 3 points and external funding 6 points could be used if needed.

There are 4 things needed for Tree City Application: 1.Tree Ordinance 2. Arbor Day celebration and proclamation 3. Spend \$2 per capita on tree related items 4. Board in place?

10. DNR GRANTS

- All funds need to be expended by a certain date this year.

11. Arbor Day Celebration with Arbor Day Recovery Tree Planting

- Event will be held 10/24/20
- Committee has been meeting weekly on Friday's at 1:00pm. Anyone who would like to join in on Zoom let Rachel know.
- Committee members who have been meeting are: Taylor, Carrie, Abby Tammy from DNR, Denise from Park, Sue Patton and Tammy from SMCF, Rachel from the town. Carrie has taken the lead on setting up the day into different tasks
- Everyone will have their own responsibilities
- We are encouraging volunteers to sign up in small teams that will work together. Since close to Halloween dressing up in costume as a team challenge might be a fun thing for everyone.
- Teams will go to home owner's house and help plant the trees. Prior to event everyone will have training on planting trees.
- One person possibly Carrie will be calling 811 so utilities will be marked for safe planting

- Arborists will go to each sight making sure trees are planted in proper places and soil is right for the tree planting.
- DNR is helping with online survey. The survey contains things such as **a.** Releases not holding volunteers liable for anything that happens on the property. **b.** Homeowner verifying they are owner of property and a tree can be planted there. **c.** Asks for the homeowners address and what type of tree they want. **At this time no definite date has been set for the survey availability.**

12. Planting of the trees

- 200 Residents will be getting trees and it will be on a first come first serve basis. Addresses will be gathered and evaluated.
 - **First priority will be people in the tornado effected area in town**
 - **Second priority will be people still inside the Pendleton boundary**
 - **Third priority will be people outside the Pendleton boundary**

South Madison Community Foundation has some money collected from donations during the tornado recovery. If needed, monies would be available for trees for people who were affected by the tornado but outside the town of Pendleton.

All trees are in 5 gallon buckets which are small enough for volunteers to move and plant. The South Madison Community Foundation might be reaching out to get donations for 200 bags of mulch (1 bag per tree) and 5 gallon buckets.

Trees will not be planted for customers who do not want a tree planted in the right-of-way in front of their house..

13. Arbor Day Foundation

- Arbor Day Foundation gave the town \$1000 in addition to what was requested. The foundation would like to have a video made of the day. Rachel reached out to Lou Brenner to see if he was interested in doing the video. He told Rachel he was interested and wanted to lean more. Jack Hudson was also recommended by Jeanette Isbell.

End of meeting was a discussion on allowing people to prune the trees in the right of way in front of their house. That is a possibility in the future.

14. Adjournment - Next meeting July 28, 2020