

Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee

MEETING DATE: March 16, 2023
LOCATION: Pendleton Town Hall
100 W. State Street Pendleton, Indiana
TIME: 6:00 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by President Carol Hanna at 6:03 pm.

II. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Board members in attendance were Carol Hanna, Kerry Dodd and Jo Scott. A quorum was established.

Individual representing the Town was Zoning and Planning Administrator Denise McKee.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve February 2023 meeting minutes made by Jo Scott; seconded by Kerry Dodd; all members present voted in favor of motion; motion carried.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. PUFC Facebook Page – Update

Denise McKee provided the following information:

- There are 73 followers to date
- March – April will post spring tree care tips for healthy, successful trees in the summer, to include, but not limited to: removal of dead branches, clearing out of dead leaves, spraying for pests and disease, spreading of mulch and adequate watering; will also share how to safely remove vines in response to a FB follower's question
- Posted news/announcement article on the Town of Pendleton homepage with link to the new PUFC FB page
- Will email Solutions4ebiz to request coverage about Tree City USA as well as place on the PUFC FB page; will also soon request Solutions4ebiz to share about the PUFC page

B. Stormwater Tree Planting Initiative – 2023 – Update

Denise McKee provided the following update:

- Event will be co-hosted by Madison County MS4 Stormwater Partnership and Anderson Noon Rotary Club
- Clayton Whitson of Madison County Chamber of Commerce put in contact with Jan Miller from the Anderson Noon Rotary Club
- Plan to present event and more details at a June Anderson Noon Rotary Club Meeting

- Anderson Noon Rotary Club will help coordinate volunteers for the City of Anderson; they may also help fund cost of 5-gallon buckets and stickers
- Grant application will be submitted with Arbor Day Foundation by end of April 2023
- Funding options will also be explored with South Madison Community Foundation and Madison Community Foundation for event funding needs such as rain barrels for each community, 5-gallon buckets and stickers, as well as mulch for each tree
- Madison County MS4 Stormwater Partnership will be taking part in Arbor Day Celebration in City of Anderson as a prelude to the Tree Planting Initiative: April 28, 2023 from 10:30 am – 1:00 pm at the Citizens Plaza in downtown Anderson

C. 2022 Tree City USA Award Application – Update

Denise McKee reported the following:

- 2022 Urban Forestry Benchmarks met in 2022 outlined in presentation, including the following:
 - Total expenditure per capita: \$42.73
 - Number of trees planted: 25
 - Number of trees removed: 150
 - Numbers of trees trimmed: 550
 - Volunteer Time total: 275 hours
- Town of Pendleton received notification of being recipient of the 2022 Tree City USA Award for the 13th consecutive year
- Hanging of the new flag will be in good timing for the opening of the new playground
- Plan to have picture taken of Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee in front of new flag once it has been hung and the new playground is complete
- Announcement of the award will be issued on Town Website, Town FB Page and Urban Forestry FB Page

D. Municipal Arborist Consulting Services – Update:

- Plant Growth Management has been awarded the bid for Municipal Arborist Consulting Services
- PGM to extend current public tree management in utility easements and under powerlines
- Amended Contract for extended service in the works
- Amended Contract to include:
 - Project Outline (5 Town Sections)
 - Work Plan
 - Tree Inventory Report and report to Town Staff
 - Tree Assessments (1/5 per year) and to report to Town Staff
 - Maintenance Scheduling
 - Soil Improvements and Tree Growth Regulator Treatments with Notice to Proceed Requirement
 - Town Staff to manage and update TreeKeeper Software per Consultant communications
 - Amended Contract to be presented at April PUFC Meeting
 - 1/5 Town Assessments to begin mid-late Spring through Summer 2023

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Arbor Day/MS4 Stormwater Partnership Booth – Public Outreach Event:

- Event hosted by City of Anderson Parks and Recreation and scheduled for Arbor Day; Friday, April 28th
- Event to take place at the Citizens Plaza from 10:30 am – 1:00 pm
- Free tree seedlings will be handed out on first come first serve basis
- Madison County MS4 Stormwater Partnership will be one of about 6-8 vendor booths
- Partnership booth will hand out stormwater brochure and dog poo bags. Also, one of the partnership representatives, Kim Richardson is looking into an interactive activity
- Will reach out to the City of Anderson Parks and Recreation to find out the expected attendance and age of attendees, in order to provide activity for children if school aged is expected
- Welcome and encourage participation of Urban Forestry Committee members as trees provide significant stormwater benefits to include but not limited to:
 - Roots hold and capture water and rain run-off
 - Water fuels the tree by retaining 10% of rain for self-growth and 90% giving back to the air in oxygen through evaporation from the leaves
 - Dead/fallen leaves and tree roots help improve soil for better ground filtration of water that provides source of water to our underground water tables and aquifers
 - Tree roots and leaves capture impurities and release clean air through evaporated water
 - Greenspace/grass and trees help retain 50% of water while impervious surfaces only provide 20-30% water retention
- Ideas shared for activities from Urban Forestry Committee members included spinner with question/answer and giving out small prizes, coloring/art activity for children (6 pack crayon/coloring sheet) to take home or post on tent, hand out stickers, possible involvement with local school students

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Carol Hanna at 6:43 p.m.

Next meeting April 20, 2023 at 6:00 pm.