

**MINUTES
TREE BOARD
June 18, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Dan Bullock called the virtual meeting to order at 6:05 pm on June 18, 2020.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present for roll call:

Members Present: Dan Bullock, Chairperson
 Sarah Kemme, Member
 Kim Bock, Member
 Joanne Teeple, Member

Town Staff Present: Mike Callas, Town Liaison
 Marty Silverstein, Trustee Liaison
 Kae McDonald, Boards and Commissions Clerk

Guests & Observers: None Present

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion Passed: Sarah ***moved*** to approve the May 2020 Tree Board minutes. Kim ***seconded*** the motion, and it was ***unanimously approved***.

PERSONS PRESENT NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mike mentioned that he had checked with other Town employees and the turning radius at the new City Market Fuel Center has been adjusted and will hopefully reduce impacts to trees lining the area.

FALL ARBOR DAY

Mike presented a plan for a Fall Arbor Day celebration to take place at the North Face Pickleball Courts and Ballfield. The irrigation will need to be fixed after the pickleball courts are fenced and painted, but that should take place well before September.

Kim asked if the plant availability would be adequate at that time of year. Mike replied that since he has started buying locally, the choices and health of the trees are better than buying from the Front Range.

Dan asked if previous Arbor Day trees planted at the ballfield that have not thrived would be replaced during the celebration. Mike replied that the Covid-19 protocols will dictate the size of the group and consequently the number of trees that are planted. However, North Face Park is a central location that will allow adequate social distancing. He also pointed out that the TOC has installed a domestic source of water that can be used as a back-up in case the irrigation system at RFHS goes down.

Dan asked for dates that might work for the group. After a brief conversation, Saturday, September 12, 2020 was penciled in for the Arbor Day celebration.

SOPRIS PARK TREE ID PLAQUES AND WEB SITE PAGE

Dan, Mike, and Lisa will coordinate a time to walk through Sopris Park and pick trees that will be appropriate for ID plaques. They will then present those choices to Colin Quinn, the Chair of the EBoard, and work to find someone that can develop a web page that can be linked to both the EBoard and Tree Board websites.

THRIVING VERSUS FAILING TREES IN CARBONDALE

Various members of the Tree Board have noticed many trees failing to thrive throughout Carbondale. Dan pointed out the Oak tree next to the gazebo in Sopris Park was doing well up until last year, but he observed recently that it is now dead. He has also noted maples where the leaders have died. He would like someone to consider writing an article for the Sopris Sun that addresses how the prolonged drought is stressing trees, with younger trees failing to thrive and older trees succumbing to disease.

Mike mentioned the Oak tree in the 4th Street Plaza that was doing well, but got nailed with aphids last year, and lost all its leaves. He also pointed out that the construction along Highway 133 has disrupted the irrigation system, and they can't repair it until the construction is completed. Another reason that the younger trees did not survive is the hard freeze this spring—the root balls froze because of the lack of snow and consequently couldn't take up any moisture.

Mike also pointed out that the pine tree in Miners Park that got struck by lightning in 2017 was struck again this spring and they had to take it down.

MICHAEL'S TREE REPORT/DESIGN REVIEW OF RED HILL LOFTS PUD TREE PLACEMENT

Mike presented the proposed tree placement for the PUD that includes Red Hill Lofts. The plantings specific to Red Hill Lofts were previously reviewed in March 2018; the current review pertains to the UDC requirements for the commercial PUD along Dolores Way because there is a negative balance of plant material given the size of the lot. A total of 29 trees are proposed to be planted including:

- 2 trees within the Red Hill Lofts property (to be placed in locations that are less likely to interfere with the roof solar array);
- 2 trees along Dolores Way in front of PPG Paints;
- 7 trees along Dolores Way in front of Alchemy Audi Visual Concert Systems;
- 6 trees along Dolores Way in front of the building that houses Silo;
- 8 trees along Dolores Way in front of Double Diamond;
- 4 trees along Dolores Way in front of Sunsense Solar.

Mike went on to say that the proposed tree list is acceptable, and they can dictate where the trees are placed to reduce potential vehicle damage. It will also be up to the PUD to plant and maintain the trees.

Jo Anne asked if it was possible to plant a few of the trees at the intersection of the PUD and the RFTA Park-N-Ride lot, and coordinate with RFTA to irrigate the trees. It would provide some much needed shade for pedestrians.

Mike indicated that he would confer with Janet to see if that is a possibility. He will verify what the process was behind the tree locations, as well as check to see if some of the trees can be moved.

Dan summarized the Tree Board's concerns with the proposal:

- Concern about irrigation control and whose responsibility it was for tree survival;
- Truck conflicts and damage to trees;
- Tree spacing (many of the trees appear to be planted too close together).

Mike reported that a memorial tree planting took place in lieu of a spring Arbor Day. A Russian Hawthorne was planted near the dog park along Holland.

PARKING RESTRICTION AROUND TOC TREES

Jo Anne pointed out the fact that she has seen more personal recreation vehicles and large pick-up trucks parking under or alongside trees. The height of these vehicles is such that they are breaking tree limbs and doing other types of damage. She would like to see some sort of parking restrictions in order to protect the Town's investment in trees.

Marty agreed that the vehicles keep getting bigger, but he wondered how best to regulate parking limitations.

Jo Anne countered that big vehicles could park in the lot next to Town Hall, and signage could be placed in strategic locations to restrict the type of parking.

Dan also agreed, suggesting that the effort involve a wider array of groups such as the EBoard, the Planning Department, and Code Enforcement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marty brought up the fact that a TOC official had noticed Jo Anne weeding, and asked Marty to pass along a thank you to Jo Anne and the Tree Board for helping to maintain the Town's landscaping. It was noticed and appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT

The June 18, 2020, regular meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled on July 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kae McDonald