

Tree Committee Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2020

Present:

Dennis Winterringer, Chairman
Pam Richardson, Member
Robert Seaborn, Member
Anita Grove, City Commissioner
Adriane Elliott, City Commissioner
Ravena Ramsey, Code Enforcement

Ms. Richardson's summary of January's meeting was approved.

Arbor Day, January 25, 2020, was deemed a success with positive feedback from all participants. All the trees were distributed and they Master Gardeners gave away vegetable plants.

Improvements for Arbor Day suggestions including more trees for distribution and continuing to invite the Master Gardener group.

New state laws on tree removal or severe pruning were discussed when Ms. Ramsey asked about procedure for approving tree removal. Dennis explained that the state law was being contested but that requiring the approval of a certified arborist or landscape architect would likely be too expensive for most requests. He also proposed we request the city add the state law to tree removal application forms to inform people of that option.

Dennis explained the tree removal process to Council Woman Elliott.

The severe tree cutting along Avenue G between Market and Commerce Street was discussed and Council Woman Grove agreed to investigate this situation.

Ms. Grove also reported someone would like to donate and install a number of larger trees as an anonymous legacy. The question of where came up and Ms. Elliott suggested consulting a landscape architect about design. Ms. Grove will follow up on the tree contribution.

Chairman Winterringer announced that the mayor has requested the names of Tree Committee members and inquired about openings for new members.