

Devils Lake Shade Tree Committee
8-10-23

Present: Cathy Olson, Nate Bennet, Cory Meyer, Tammy Meyer, Lindsay Overmyer, Sarah Laite, Terry Wallace, Paul Thompson, Helen Carlson.

Terry called the meeting to order. Cathy made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction: add Lindsay to the list of those present. Motion 2nd by Tammy. Carried.

Cory stated Angry Beaver will be starting tree trimming soon. They were asked to cut and trim in the alleys every year. Money has been added to the budget to cover that cost. Next year's proposal will include trimming alleys.

Tammy said Bill Hodous has agreed to work on the tree inventory next spring. We need to yet determine a budget for the project. Grant money should be available from NDSU Extension and may open up as soon as September 1. A comprehensive forestry plan should be a shoe-in for receiving grant money.

Lindsay said a canopy study needs to be done first before you know what to do and where to start.

Cory said we could use the ND TIP tool for doing an inventory and the State would provide training. City will provide the compensation after we determine the cost of paying by the hour for someone to do the study. Cory said Spencer will dedicate 5% of sales tax income for the Shade Tree budget next year.

Tammy asked NDSU for criteria for grant application and a comprehensive plan for trees.

A suggestion was made to send out a community flyer with information on the emerald ash borer, tree diversity and planting trees. A radio coffee time interview could be done to talk about trees and diversity; control of diseases; re-planting trees; conserve and manage trees; enhanced public benefit from trees. Information should be put out to the public before Bill goes out in the spring to start taking pictures.

We will plan the September meeting for the 28th so more information is available on the upcoming steps for getting a canopy inventory and study done. Further discussion will also be held on media effort to be used.

Lindsay made a motion to recommend reappointment of Tammy Meyer, Paul Thompson, Jason Pierce as members of the Shade Tree Committee. Motion 2nd by Cathy. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Carlson
Recording Secretary