

Decorah Tree Board

January 31, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeremy Brill at 5:33pm in the City Hall Conference Room.

Present: Jeremy Brill, Dick Guilgot, Drew Pellett, Scott Timm, and Peter van der Linden.

MOTION by Guilgot, second by Timm: to approve the minutes of the December 6 meeting as circulated. Motion carried.

MOTION by van der Linden, second by Timm: to select Brill as Chairman for 2019. Motion carried.

MOTION by Guilgot, second by Timm: to select van der Linden as Secretary for 2019. Motion carried.

Brill reported that the City Attorney is reviewing the revised tree ordinance. The City Manager would prefer that the prohibited trees list, setback criteria, and tree voucher be placed in an exhibit that is referenced in the ordinance, instead of being part of the ordinance itself. These items can then be changed when necessary without the City Council having to review them.

Brill reported that our grant proposal to Black Hills Energy is still pending. Thus we don't know if the \$5,000 available from the Decorah Rotary Club will be matched. However, Rotary still would like to plant trees this spring. Brill will invite representatives of Rotary to attend the next Tree Board meeting to discuss the matter. Timm will develop a brochure to be given to property owners.

According to Brill, the City Manager has requested that the Tree Board review and suggest changes in the City's website. The changes will be implemented in-house. van der Linden will review the website and report back to the Board. Providing information about Emerald Ash Borer is a priority.

Brill reported that the Master Gardeners in Decorah are interested in collaborating with the Tree Board. Brill will invite their president to the next Tree Board meeting.

Guilgot reported the the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has approved Decorah's renewal as a Tree City USA. IDNR will forward the renewal application to the Arbor Day Foundation.

Adjourned at 6:30pm.

Peter van der Linden, Secretary