

December 1, 2008 Minutes

Attendees: Andrea, Mike, Diane, Ellen, Hap, Alice,
Connie O'Connell, Tyleen, Sally

November Minutes: Minutes were read and approved.

Budget: Renee', the City Accountant, reported that the auditor found a discrepancy in some of the expenditures when comparing invoices to total amount shown to have been spent. All records by Forestry Board Members were correct and it has been determined that the accounting method may have been inaccurate, thus the Forestry Board owes \$3000+ back to the City. Also, there was a reminder that no re-imbursements will be made for expenditures that do not receive prior approval and have a purchase order number.

Calendar Project: Diane received a report from Jim and Ann, who were not present, that the calendars would be ready before Thanksgiving and could be delivered Saturday and/or Sunday after the Holiday. All Board Members will receive an e-mail from Jim and/or Ann requesting help in delivering the calendars. Each person will be given a section of Anchorage to be responsible for delivery.

Nursery: Ellen reported that there are still just a few trees left in the nursery. She also stated that she has a few trees on her property and has asked if anyone would like to have them because they need to be moved. Maintenance will be contacted to look at the trees and determine if they can be transferred to the nursery. Diane stated that as of now we do not have to move any of the existing trees left in the nursery, according to Jay Foley.

Anchor-age Newsletter: Acknowledge the tree planted for Doc Wagner and Bill Shipley. The tree has been decorated with lights and will be considered the City's annual Christmas Tree. Also, a reminder about

the 2009 Canopy and Wholesale Tree Program order forms will be in the January Anchor-age.

Canopy: Diane reported that letters were sent to wholesale nurseries and planting contracts to request bids for the 2009 Tree Campaign. All who were sent letters responded. After some discussion, it was decided by the Board that Wearren & Son Nursery would receive the contract because of the availability of the trees requested, the price for the trees and their planting, and previous experience of receiving quality trees and service. All those who responded will be sent a letter of thanks for participating in the bidding process and hope they will consider doing so again in the future.

Hazard Trees: The list is complete and the bidding process will begin soon.

Arbor Day: Diane recommended that the project for next year be a program to educate everyone, including Anchorage Residents, on identifying hazardous trees. Mark Timmons had suggested this idea at a previous meeting, which may help to alleviate the concerns of the residents. Diane will check with Mark and Andrea as to an appropriate month and time.

Anchorage Pride: No report.

Old Business: Diane has not heard anything from John McGarvey about the issues that we are seeking a legal opinion on so that we know how to proceed with the Canopy Program. She will follow-up and try to get an answer before the next meeting. Also, she will inquire about the Tree Ordinance changes the Board is requesting as recommended by Mark Timmons.

New Business: Diane said she has received a note from Ellen stating that she has been on the Forestry Board for 15 years and thinks it is time to move on and recruit new members with new energy and fresh ideas. She has requested to be an Associate Member for one year. We are sad to hear this but respect her wishes and are very thankful for her many years of volunteer work and dedication to our community that has helped to make it what it is today.

Everyone was given a copy of the requirements for Forestry Board membership that was thoroughly discussed and unanimously approved by everyone at the beginning of the year. It was mentioned that several people are “on the fence” as to meeting these requirements, some in violation of more than one of the requirements. It was requested that anyone who has not met all the requirements will not be eligible to chair any of the Board projects. Everyone was reminded that being on the Forestry Board is not a permanent position but is appointed by the Mayor each year by recommendation, as stated in the Tree Ordinance.

Next Meeting: January 5, 2009 at 9:30 A.M.

Meeting Adjourned:

P.S. On the agenda for December 1, 2008, a mistake was made on the date for the next meeting. Belief it or not, the calendar I was using had the mistake, which I will bring to the next meeting to show you.

Please note the correct meeting date.

Happy Holidays

