

January 5th. 2009 Minutes

Attendees: Andrea, Mike, Diane, Ellen, Hap Connie, Sally, Jim
Alice was present for part of the meeting.

December Minutes: Minutes were read and approved.

Budget: No report. No expenditures since last month.

Calendar Project: Calendars were delivered to residents in early December. Approximately 150 calendars remain which will be sold at City Hall for \$5.00 each. The next Anchor-age will invite anyone who did not receive a calendar to pick one up at City Hall as soon as possible because they will be given away at no charge after Feb. 1st. The costs incurred for the 2009 calendar is estimated to be under \$300. Gifts will be given to 2 major contributors for the calendar in appreciation of their generosity. Approximately \$100 was spent to cover the cost of mileage to Shepherdsville and the cost of transferring photos to a DVD to print at Murphy's Camera Center. In addition to those expenses will be a thank-you gift to our anonymous publisher of the calendar.

Nursery: Ellen reported that many young trees still remain in the Lakeland Nursery but that we are under no pressure to move them. Ellen still has a few Purple Beeches on her property for anyone who would like to dig them and plant on their property. Booth was going to look at them to see if they were suitable to transfer to the Lakeland nursery.

Anchor-age Newsletter: Notices as mentioned about the calendars at City Hall and the Canopy Tree order forms as mentioned in the respective sections of these minutes. Also, Let everyone know that any tree adjacent to their property that has an orange dot

on it means it is hazardous and will be taken down. A reminder that the Canopy Program is a good way to replace it and have the City subsidize 50% of the expense.

Canopy: Diane met with Brent Wearren of Wearren & Son Nursery to finalize the order form for tree species, as recommended by our City Arborist, for our Tree Canopy and Wholesale Campaign of 2009. Wearren and Son was awarded the contract for the trees and their planting.

Hazard Trees: The list is complete and the bidding process will begin soon. There is again a great deal of concern about the number of hazardous trees being removed this year. Alice joined us and reported that approximately 77 trees (66 in the City-right-of-way) will be removed this year. Recent droughts plus the Maple Blight has contributed to the large numbers. The Maintenance Department will be involved in some aspects of the tree removal process.

There was some discussion about the process that determines a tree as being hazardous. The Forestry Board Members are given a list of the hazardous and “watch-list” trees and are asked to review the list by finding these trees and making notes of observation which are then given to the City Arborist to determine their status. We are also asked to add any suspicious trees that we think need to be evaluated. It is the Arborist’s final decision as to whether a tree is hazardous or is placed on the “watch-list”. Once a tree is considered hazardous, the City becomes liable if no action is taken.

Arbor Day: Diane recommended last month 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 and 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: Last month we had a discussion about requesting permission to allow all residents living on private access roads be allowed to participate in the Canopy Campaign. We were informed that a proposal had to be made to City Counsel and they could make a ruling in favor of the idea. This was done at the December meeting and City Counsel ruled in favor of this proposal.

The newly planted Colorado Spruce Tree has been declared Anchorage's official Christmas Tree. Lights were purchased by the City of Anchorage and was decorated by Maintenance Personnel with Diane's assistance. Forestry Board will assume the responsibility of making sure it is decorated each year. The lights are stored at the Maintenance Department.

New Business: Everyone was given a copy of some information to review that was sent by the Arbor Day Foundation concerning Tree City USA and The Growth Award. Alice recommended that we read and consider applying for this award since we are probably meeting all the requirements with what we are already doing. This award would give us more recognition and status as Tree City USA.

Next Meeting: February 2, 2009 at 9:30 A.M.

Meeting Adjourned:

Enclosed is a list of the Board Members with e-mail and ph. # for 2009.

Also, is a list of the meeting dates for this next year. If you see an error, please let me know.