

ARBOR BOARD OF LOWELL

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017

12 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL**

The Meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. and the roll was called.

Present: Perry Beachum, Diane LaWarre, Jim Hodges, Melissa Spino, and Chair Reagan (arrived at 12:10).

Absent: None.

Also Present: Theresa Mundt, Rich LaBombard and Steve Donkersloot.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

IT WAS MOVED BY BEACHUM and seconded by SPINO to approve the agenda as presented.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.**

IT WAS MOVED BY BEACHUM and seconded by SPINO to approve the regular minutes of the October 10, 2016 meeting as corrected.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

4. **REVIEW FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Perry Beachum questioned where funding comes from for the Arbor Board. There was a discussion, stating the City gives \$4,000. This question will be looked into further and the board will be advised.

The financial report was approved by the consensus of the board.

5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

No comments were received.

6. **OLD BUSINESS.**

a. Tree Complaint on Lafayette. There has been a complaint in reference to a tree in the right of way on Lafayette that is leaning towards the owner's residence. Rich LaBombard advised he has measured the tree and there was no change. LaBombard also advised that after the wind storm, there was only one small branch that came down. He will continue to monitor the tree.

7. **NEW BUSINESS.**

a. Election of Chair

IT WAS MOVED BY BEACHUM and seconded by SPINO to nominate Jim Reagan as Chair.

YES: 5. NO: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Approve 2017 Meeting Dates.

IT WAS MOVED BY BEACHUM and seconded by LaWarre to approve the 2017 Meeting Date.

YES: 5. NO: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

- c. Comprehensive Tree Plan. There was discussion and review on the tree plan by zone. Changes were made as follows. The Board asked Rich LaBombard to come up with a plan as to how many trees need to be planted for the projected budget. If the budget allows, the Board will implement a giveaway plan of either evergreens or red bud samplings. LaBombard noted he will get quotes on seedlings.

Comprehensive Tree Plan Areas by Zone

Zone 1 – North / East Side Lowell

1. Removal of selected dead trees from street parkways.
2. Selected thinning and pruning of pine forest at Washington Street city property.
3. Maintain and trim trees and remove along ROW and offer replacement trees to be planted on residential properties as budget permits.

Zone 2 – South / East Side Lowell

1. Maintain and trim trees along ROW when needed.
2. Maintain and trim trees and remove along ROW and offer replacement trees to be planted on residential properties as budget permits.

Zone 3 – Downtown/Riverwalk

1. It is suggested that the Arbor Board take over the responsibilities of planting from the DDA, allowing the DDA to concentrate on development, and to provide the Arbor Board with coordinating planting activities throughout the community. It is also intended to coordinate all planting efforts with the Showboat Garden Club to minimize duplication of effort. Assist with landscaping at library as budget allows.

Zone 4 – West Main Shopping Area

1. Annual budgeting should include tree planting in this area. Our hope is that we will eventually be allowed by the state and county, to plant within the right-of-way. In the meantime, we should concentrate on planting on private property fronting Main Street.

Zone 5 – North / West Side of Lowell

1. Add and/or replace trees in Creekside Park as needed.

Zone 6 – South / West Side of Lowell

Implementation Tree Plan for 2017

1. It is suggested that the Arbor Board take over the responsibilities of planting from the DDA, allowing the DDA to concentrate on development, and to provide the Arbor Board with coordinating planting activities throughout the community. It is also intended to coordinate all planting efforts with the Showboat Garden Club to minimize duplication of effort.
 - d. Spring Plantings. It was discussed to give out samplings for Arbor Day.
 - e. Tree Complaint at N. West Street. There is a tree on North West Street where the tops are breaking and falling into the owner's yard. The owner is afraid the tree will fall on his property. This was tabled and the Board will consider taking the tree down in the spring.
 - f. Request to Harvest Walnut Tree near the Wastewater Plant. Bob Sears would like to harvest the walnut tree. Rich LaBombard advised he was not able to find a walnut tree.
 - g. Trees in front of Big Boiler. Big Boiler will be putting in plantings in the front of the building. The Board decided to review the site plan in order to determine if trees or shrubs should be planted. The Board could give a tree or put trees back in the sidewalk
 - h. Compensation Cut – Recommendation and Request Tree Donation. King Milling will be doing a compensation cut at Stoney Lakeside Park. By general consensus, the Board suggested King Milling donate \$500 if any trees will be removed instead of adding more trees.
 - i. Consider Business Selection for Arbor Day Tree. After some discussion, the Board decided to plant a tree in front of Greenridge Realty for Arbor Day.

8. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS.

Boardmember Spino welcomed Perry Beachum to the board.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

IT WAS MOVED BY HODGES and seconded by SPINO to adjourn at 1:15 p.m.

James E. Reagan, Chair

Susan Ullery, Recording Secretary