

Buena Vista Tree Advisory Board

January 12 , 2017

In attendance were: Tom Liverman, Dan Murray, Roy Gertson , Kathryn Hardgrave, Greg Maggard

Since not having a quorum, a work session continued at 3:05 pm.

Volunteer time ; 4 hrs. Admin & Work plan preparation

1. Public Works placed ad on water bill statements w/ no one interested in joining the Tree Board. Since we have only 3 active members and the Municipal Code requires 4 members for a meeting quorum , we can only have work sessions with no voting.
2. Greg completed Tree City USA application for 2016.
3. Colorado State Forester Kathryn Hardgrave mentioned The Front Range is experimenting with some new cultivars. Since Salida's weather is more similar to the Front Range than BV, Kathryn will make the Salida Tree Board aware of the trees. New trees that appear successful in Salida may also be suitable for BV. New species that could expand our tree diversity would be valuable. We will be inspecting our experimental species planted last two years.
4. Cedar St. planting project was not funded in the 2017 Budget. Discussed the possibility of the adopt a tree program being able to plant some of the Cedar St tree sites.
5. Finalized the 2017 work plan. Greg will submit the work plan to Town Council.
6. Budget for 2017 approved Adopt a Tree program @ \$5,000, Operating @ \$2,000 (includes Arbor day expenses), Removals & pruning @ \$ 18,000.
7. Greg will request 2017 tree prices from Little Valley Wholesale Nursery. They provided our 2016 trees with great quality and competitive prices.
8. Reviewed Sketch Plan for "The Farm" for tree species and planting detail. Plan includes 116 trees to be planted with 6 different species. 47% Cottonwoods. We would prefer more diversity reducing the Cottonwood plantings to 30 %. The Sketch plan shows the same species planted together in rows. We commented on alternating plantings of different species in the street rows. Greg to present our concerns.
9. Members concerned with the large Cottonwood tree at intersection of US Hwy. 24 and Cottonwood Ave. Severe root damage has occurred during construction. Contractor is watering tree with their water truck. Suggestions of further measures include applying a root stimulator and crown pruning. The tree root base is about 3 ft higher than the curbing. We discussed possible remedies as a retaining wall and filled with topsoil, placing rock on the root base and sloped down to curb, or replacing the tree. We will inspect the tree this spring when it leafs out for viability.

Ended work session at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Gertson

Secretary