

**ANCHORAGE FORESTRY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING • MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023 • CITY HALL**

ATTENDING Chair Jan Ruzich, Lucy Spickard, Ellen Welham, Paul Wessel, Nancy Wilkinson, City Administrator Reneé Major, Public Works Director Gary Burkhead, City Forester Andrea Hanlon, resident Victoria Gaar, resident Jenny Solomon

ABSENT Diane McAllister, Adele McCoy

CALL TO ORDER Jan called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Copies of the January minutes had been emailed to members, and printed copies were distributed for review at the meeting. Lucy made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Nancy seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

FORESTER REPORT

Permits There were 13 permits issued in January for the removal of 21 trees, of which 4 were ash trees.

Fines There were no fines in January.

PROJECT REPORTS

Jan noted that we will develop project checklists as we move through our events through the year.

Arbor Day and Tree Giveaway (Wednesday, March 15 and Sunday, March 19)

Board members discussed the Arbor Day checklist that Jan had distributed at the January meeting. Board members will sign up for jobs at the March meeting. Jan is working to confirm the speaker that has been invited. Three hundred trees for the giveaway have been ordered; Andrea will arrange for delivery to Public Works on Monday, March 13. Paul will obtain the banners for the program and giveaway. Set-up will begin on March 15 at 5:00 PM; the program will begin at 6:00 PM; and the giveaway will take place immediately following the program. Board members discussed procedures for registration of attendees and for the giveaway. It is expected that most of the trees will be taken on Wednesday, but any trees remaining will be available for residents on Sunday, March 19.

Hazardous Trees (Paul Wessel)

We expect to begin identifying hazardous trees in late August. Gary reported that Podges Tree Service has been hired to do the removal and pruning; work is underway.

2024 Calendar (Jan Ruzich)

Jan suggested inviting City residents to submit photos or art for the calendar. The subjects must be located in Anchorage and should include trees or other plants. Those pieces selected will be organized by month according to the season represented.

Tree City USA/Growth Award (Lucy Spickard, Jan Ruzich)

The Board discussed continuing the landscape clean-up work along Ridge Road this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Volunteer hours (Jan Ruzich)

Board members will maintain their own record of hours logged on Forestry Board projects. Lucy and Jan explained the activities that may be included.

Future projects

Board members discussed the possibility of conducting a survey of City trees and how those trees might be identified and recorded.

NEWSLETTER (Ellen Welham)

The March issue will include information about the Arbor Day program and a flyer with information about the trees to be given away. Jan will produce the flyer.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT (Jan Ruzich)

Jan gave the report.

ADJOURNMENT Jan adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 6 • 8:45 AM • City Hall

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Welham