



TOWN OF ERIE

645 Holbrook Street
Erie, CO 80516

Meeting Minutes

Tree Board

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

7:00 PM

Community Room

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

GENERAL BUSINESS

Review & Approval of March & April 2018 Minutes

Arbor Day / Earth Day 2018

- Final thoughts (exhibitors, display, timeframe, food, presentations, etc)
- Ideas for 2019

School Outreach - Brian

- Status update (after multiple visits)

Decision of Future Events - All

- Farmers Market, etc.
- Planning

Election of Board Positions - All

- Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary

Direction of the Tree Board - All

- Where do we want to go from here?

Discussions

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting

June 13, 2018, 7:00

Community Room, Erie Town Hall

CALL MEETING TO ORDER 7:02pm

ROLL CALL Brian O'Connor, Present

Tom Swihart, Present
Kim Tuck, Present
Rachel Folger, Absent
Arthur Henderlong, Present
Sharon Clark, Present
Leanne Vielehr, Present

PUBLIC COMMENT AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

n/a

APPROVE March 2018 and April 2018 MEETING MINUTES

Move to amend the agenda with flexibility: Art

Second: Leanne

Approved: unanimous

Moved to approve minutes with changes: Leanne

Second: Tom

Approved: unanimous

GENERAL BUSINESS

Arbor Day / Earth Day 2018

- Overall positive
- Not enough donuts
- Need to know how many tables/chairs/tents we can offer so we know the max number of exhibitors we can support
- Could ask exhibitors to bring their own tables/chairs/tents and we can offer it if they don't have it
- Kathleen Thurmes - EcoCycle - brought her own stuff - she also provided a list of other exhibitors that could be of interest to this event
- Back up space is a wise choice because of potential bad weather. If book Mitchell room early - it could open to a much larger space as a contingency.
- Event is always the last Saturday in April
- Typically, Arbor Day is held at different parks depending on the need for trees - will need to figure out how to announce the secondary space to people and guide them over if it's held at different parks in the future.
- There was a lot of traffic because of the soccer games and 9news health fair. But we got a lot of extra traffic to booths because of it.
- Would like to still work with Sustainability Committee to dual-host this event if they are interested.
- Need better clips to hang stuff on our display board.
- Nice comments from visitors about the Tree Posters that Leanne provided.
- Extending to 3 hours may be good if get more exhibitors
- Need a better way to handle the raffle so it's clear who is a winner rather than verbally.
- PA system could be louder or if the raffle items were near the PA system.
- Use landscape tape to mark off chosen trees
- Can talk with Mike McGill about the timeframe at the next meeting - 3 hours may be the max time we'd want to do this. How to keep people around during that long of time?
- Need to start contacting exhibitors earlier. Utility companies need to be

contacted by end of Summer because their event calendar is finalized in October the previous year. Can just ask them earlier to get on their calendar then follow up with more details during beginning of the year.

- May want to meet with Sustainability Committee after their roster is finalized to see if they want to help and a plan to proceed in terms of how to organize the event/contact exhibitors/etc.
- Leanne will collect and put all of the event photos on the server. Brian will get the server information to us.
- Ask for archive the town photographer images

School Outreach

- A bit chaotic with young kids that have different levels of attention/concern to detail.
- May want to target just 1st grade.
- Mike wings it, and that works with him, but if we can have a better understanding of how it works - have a protocol of how the process will be - talk/lecture - then line up, then plant the trees, etc. A bit more organized it might go more smoothly.
- Posters about trees for the kids was nice to have
- Ask them what they knew about trees - then planted a tree via assembly line seemed to work well.
- Brian brought the trees his kid grew to the class to show them what it looks like a year later.
- It is worth doing and we'd like to continue this program.
- Makes more sense for Mike to be the point person, because he knows how many supplies are available.
- Cannot do overly large groups (95 kids for one session is too much) - one classroom at a time, perhaps back-to-back classrooms are ok to manage.
- Only request from Mike is to steer clear of Arbor Day. Perhaps contact in January and give the teachers a one-two month window that this is possible. Discuss this idea with Mike at June Meeting.

Decision of Future Events

Farmer's Market - Need Rachel's input - planning on a later market date so can advertise the leaf recycling, September tree talk, give out literature, etc. Would need to set up a table/tent, etc.

Could promote tree facts or tree care tips with the water bill - also promote the lectures - Sharon will ask Sandy French about feasibility.

Art has a list of contacts on who he contacted for various needs for arbor day and lecture. Should we have a master list of who to contact for various needs? Sandy French should be our main contact and she can ask specific people or refer us if needed. Or could simply copy Sandy on any communications. Also copy the Tree Board.

Election of Board Positions

Table until next time.

Direction of the Tree Board

At arbor day, some people had questions about our Mission. When was the mission statement initiated? Kim thinks it had changed a bit over the years.

We've added more events.

Perhaps looking at more activity around planting trees.

What about our role of advising the board of trustees? Should we look into more policy? What is already done by Mike/Parks Dept in terms of reviewing trees that are being planted by builders, etc? OSTAB is a review board. Public areas are reviewed for trees, the resident yards are provided by builder - just obligation to provide a certain number of trees and bushes.

Books recommended by Tom - Urban Forest and Planting Future.

Goals - Could focus on what canopy, diversity, low water use, habitat, property value, etc, the town should aim for. Some boards do address these types of issues.

Inventory of trees - what types of trees are in the area?

Discounts/incentives - nearby communities give a better deal to homeowners.

Every December the Colorado Tree Coalition does a discount program. Could sell them at Arbor Day. Could buy the trees that diversify the community - sell trees at loss, and money comes from the impact fund or other funding sources.

Tom has a list of tree incentives from other communities.

Would be helpful to have someone come and explain to us what funds are allowed to be used in what ways and what approval is needed to change the use from/to certificates/tree discounts/other urban forestry plans.

Make a list of questions for Mike McGill. - Tom to start list and send around.
See more trees planted at a better rate for homeowners, etc.
Is there policy on the types of trees and goals?
Could offer cheaper trees/deeper discounts/more incentives for planting specific types of trees that help diversify or improve our urban forestry goals.
- with a revolving list of trees so there isn't a ton of those trees and we still have great diversity.

What about the whole urban forest? Are there goals for Open Space?

Leanne can bring Erie's landscape requirements to the next meeting for discussion.

Tom will take lead on the effort to investigate these issues with goals and incentives. Art will help and Brian can help as well as time permits.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: 8:20pm

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