

TOWN OF ERIE
Tree Board Minutes

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

7:00pm

Virtual

CALL MEETING TO ORDER 7:04pm

ROLL CALL

Leanne Vielehr, Present

Brian O'Connor, Present

Toby Hopp, Present

Steve Garrison, Absent

Yusupha Jow, Present

Patricia O'Donnell, Present

Sharon Clark, Present

Patrick Plummer, Town Forester

PUBLIC COMMENT AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

n/a

APPROVE March 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Brian

Second: Toby

Vote: Unanimous

GENERAL BUSINESS

Arbor Day 2021

Saturday, April 24th

Poster Contest (Brian)

5 schools participated in poster contest. Brian photographed the posters and sent to Ashley with the Town. They will be posted on the Town website and at the community center. Brian will follow up with Tasha Reynolds for the gift cards for the kids.

First grade tree seedling program (Brian)

Meadowlark, Erie, Red Hawk - ~135 kids

Soaring Heights also expressed interest. Another 100+ kids.

Patrick made some self-explanatory kits for the teachers that includes pots, soil, catalpa seeds, heating mats, and posters. Also includes a one-pager of instructions. Jordan created a PDF to be sent to teacher who will send to parents with info about the seedlings, care, and other tree/forestry/tree board programs. Should be seen by ~330 families. When Red Hawk is done with supplies, Brian will move the supplies to Soaring Heights. Aspen Ridge expressed interest but didn't confirm. Black Rock and Vista Ridge Academy didn't respond at all. Not bad for the first year of this format.

In-person method from previous years involved only 2-3 schools. We are reaching more kids with this remote format as well as the parents despite being a bit hands-off for tree board and town forester/parks staff participation. This is an interesting evolution of the program and the kits that Patrick has assembled are really well done. Brian will reach out to the teachers at the end to see what their thoughts are after the activities are done for the spring. Brian will upload his final contact spreadsheet when this is done to the Sharepoint.

Tree Scavenger Hunt

Trees aren't leafed out yet, so pushing the scavenger hunt off to be kicked off at the live event and have the raffle afterwards as well as holding back some for the scavenger hunt with another raffle might be better.

However, these trees may still not be fully leafed out by arbor day. These are all on the approved list for the incentive program so while this will be out of the spring incentive we could do this later for the fall incentive. Fall incentive program starts September 1.

Decide to push off until at least June or later when trees are leafed out.

Q&A Ask the Arborist Live Event

Unsure what the participation level will be with the live event and the raffle versus the past in-person events. Don't want to over-purchase. We can make the decision on how much to buy depending on participation with a max allowance on how much we can give away. Does not look like we are gathering contact information from the live-event for a raffle. We will be getting contact information for the scavenger hunt. Do a survey and enter to win the raffle.

Need to promote this heavily in the next week and half so people know about the Q&A forum and the live zoom link. On social media, we could also buy a sponsored ad for this. Maybe a Facebook event from the town that we can all share as well. Share on

NextDoor as well. We could also create a tip list and Tree Board members can ask questions as well. <https://erieco.us/ask-the-forester>

Leanne can serve as MC. Heidi will start it and hand over controls. The Tree Board members can be panelists. Patrick will address themes. If Tree Board members notice themes in incoming questions they can let Patrick know. Patrick will think about if he needs visuals and can tell Leanne if yes. Tree Board members thought a small set of slides would be fine so Leanne will make a slideset.

Educational Outreach

Postpone discussion of educational webpage to another meeting.

Other

Leanne will not be here for the next meeting and Patricia will be out as well. Move meeting to May 6th.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT 8:24 P.M.

Next Meeting
May 6, 2021, 7:00pm
Virtual