

Morgantown Tree Board (MTB)
Minutes, regular meeting of December 17, 2012

Present: MTB members Dan Brown, Katherine Payne, Marchetta Maupin, Secretary Jon Weems, and Chair Kara Hurst

Chair Kara called the meeting to order at 4:30 in City Council chambers and noted that a quorum was present.

Katherine moved and Dan seconded that the minutes of the August 27 meeting be approved as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Katherine moved and Dan seconded that the minutes of the October 22 meeting be approved as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Dan moved and Katherine seconded that the minutes of the November 26 meeting be approved as drafted. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

1. Web Site. Jeff was reported to have suggested we work with Susan Sullivan, bearing in mind that she is part-time. Kara said she would meet with Susan. There was some discussion of a “tree of the month” program throughout 2013, possibly posted on channel 15. Dave was reported to have said he will contact Patrick Tobin soon to review the web site work Patrick did years ago.

2. Roh Trees. Dan indicated he would talk with Jack to see what Mr. Roh said to him, and possibly talk directly with Mr. Roh.

3. Tree Inventory. Dave has begun to figure out how to work with the tree inventory in the interim before we get the TreeTracker software.

4. MTRP. MTB expressed gratitude to Marchetta and William for their good work with the crew from Reynolds. Overall, the experience of working with Reynolds to plant 31 trees was highly satisfactory. One tree on Grand was planted across the street from its intended location, but it was decided not to move the tree.

New Business

1. Internship. Bob Hannah reported an internship opportunity, but it got lost in the shuffle. The application would be due today, and the intern requires supervision. It was decided to consider this for next year.

2. Tree of the Month. Katherine agreed to be the contact/lead on a tree of the month program for 2013. Dan said would contact Greg about possible web sites to link with. Jon agreed to work with Katherine, with input from Marchetta, to select trees of the month.

3. Funding. Although the five-year plan was unfunded last year, the need for funding remains. It was urged that Kara ask for funding to hire an ISA certified arborist for one day per week to perform tree maintenance, saving money in the long run. Dan moved and Katherine seconded that Kara submit a budget request as per Dave’s suggestion and today’s discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Sunnyside. Marchetta reported some vandalism and other damage to trees in the Grant Street area. She had William clean it up. There are some good trees on the land WVU is acquiring, but their fate is uncertain.

5. Next Meeting. The next meeting was set for 4:30 PM Monday, January 28 in Council chambers. Kara noted this would be after the January Urban Landscape Commission meeting.

Jon moved for adjournment. Dan seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:26 PM.

Jon Weems