

TREE CITY BOARD MEETING
MARCH 12, 2013

Minutes of the January 8, 2013 meeting were read and approved.

VOTING MEMBERS: Vice Chairman John Williams, Max Bolick, Tom Rowe, Pat Simmons, and Mary Yoder. Chairman David White and Wilce Martin were absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sandra Waters, Parks & Recreation Director and Doyle Wyant, Parks and Recreation.

OLD BUSINESS: The downtown street planter box upgrade previously referred to the Appearance Committee has now been referred to the Streetscape Committee. This matter is currently on hold by the Tree Board.

The Arbor Day Celebration is planned for March 22nd at 9 AM. Plans are to plant a Chinese Fringetree. Forester Jeff Icard is scheduled to make the presentation with Mayor Ann Steadman reading the proclamation. Mrs Ramsey's NCHS horticulture class will assist in the program if their schedule permits.

A program on the American Chestnut Tree will be presented at the depot on June 21st. This will be a class presentation only. No tree will be planted.

Doyle reported that a new building on N Brady Ave will require some trees to be removed. Replacement trees will be planted. He also said that Newton has been re-certified as a Tree City in 2013. This will be the 3rd year certification.

David and Doyle attended a class in which grant funds were discussed. We will not prepare a grant request this year as we must apply by March of this year and will not have time to prepare a grant request properly. Up to \$15,000 can be requested for one project only. Most cities request much less.

NEW BUSINESS: The board hopes to secure enough grant money next year to either purchase equipment for board members to use in preparing a tree inventory or to possibly start a tree nursery. We have land available and we could use our own trees to replace those that need removal(interfering with power lines etc) instead of buying these trees.

The board discussed a need to have a storage place for bark mulch which the city grinds to be available to our citizens. Doyle said that currently we only have leaves available.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:05.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, MAY 7TH.

Respectfully submitted
Max Bolick, Secretary