Tree Commission Minutes

Minutes of the October 5, 2021 meeting were approved as reported

Members present: Larry Brammer – Kathryn Comish – Linda Montayne – Kurt Vonder Haar – Steve Pfettscher.

Director Rosen introduced our new member, Steve Pfettscher and welcomed him to his new role.

Public Forum: Jerry Gentemann & Ron Clarkin, representatives from the Home Owners Association of Prestige Estates requested a recommendation from the Tree Commission to plant trees on the south side of Prestige Drive to create a wind-block. Prestige HOA will pay and plant all trees but because the location is close to a water line, they believe that in light of the city planting trees near water lines on Broadway during their new streetscape project, they could follow suit. Commission members agreed but recommended that they select trees that are suitable for planting over water lines. Jerry stated that they have done their research and will comply with any other recommendations from the Commission. In addition, it was recommended to keep a minimum of 20’ from fire hydrants and to ensure that there won’t be anything growing over the street. Jerry stated that their HOA pays a service to mow, trim and maintain landscaping in the neighborhood. All Commission members approved the recommendation for them to proceed.

Unfinished Business: > Tree Trunk Sculpture - Director Rosen again asked for some guidance and assistance to look for a tree sculpture to carve the tree trunk at Silver Lake Park. Steve offered his assistance to research and look for some options. Others recommended attending some local festivals that have an artist and then to ask Highland Arts Council. > Wetland Plants – Commission members recommended plants that would not be too aggressive and would provide a lot of color. Halbred Leaf Rose – Mallow – Tick-seed Sunflower – Water Pepper – Blue Iris were some recommendations.

New Business: > Public Safety Building Vegetation – Try to incorporate as many native and nature beneficial vegetation as possible including natural grasses, however, no pompas grasses. Service Berries & Viburnum would be good selections.

Steve asked permission to prune “suckers” from trees along Veterans Honor Parkway and dispose of the stems at the Parks & Rec. Maint. Shed. Director Rosen had no objections to any help with maintaining any trees.

Motion to adjourn at 4:40PM

Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 7, 2021 @ 4:00PM in the Korte Recreation Center.