

North Little Rock Tree Board Meeting
Thursday, July 13, 2017
North Little Rock City Hall, 300 Main Street – City Clerk’s Office

The North Little Rock Tree Board meeting was convened at 1:52 p.m. by member Ian Hope. The following members were present: Ian Hope, Alderman Murry Witcher, Bert Turner, Frank Otto, City Clerk Diane Whitbey and Shep. All five members were present.

It was agreed that Mr. Hope would be the chairman of the board.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Hope reviewed items discussed at the previous meeting held Wednesday, March 15, 2017. Mr. Hope advised he and Shep participated in an Arbor Day event at the Argenta Branch of the William F. Laman Library at which time he gave away several free trees. Mr. Hope also tried to purchase books from the state for board members and for education purposes, but was unable to do so because they were not set up as a vendor with the city. It was suggested that we pay for the books and get reimbursed.

New Business: Mr. Turner discussed purchasing placards to identify trees in the area of the Covered Bridge in Burns Park and along the Pfeifer Trail near the Big Dam Bridge. The placards would include the Latin and common name of each species of tree. Mr. Witcher asked how much they would cost. Mr. Turner will find out and report back to the board.

Mr. Witcher said the Council Members from Wards 1 and 4 (Debi Ross, Beth White, Charlie Hight and Murry Witcher) are interested in working in the medians along McCain. Types of trees, care, etc. were discussed. The board then discussed the type of trees that were replanted on Main Street in the Argenta area. Mr. Patrick Lane, Street Department Director was called and advised the city planted Hornbeam, Columnar trees. The trees were purchased from River Valley Horticultural for \$190.00 each. Mr. Witcher recalled that Mr. Don Chambers, Landscape Architect had looked at the area and prepared a preliminary recommendation which was emailed to the board by Alderwoman Debi Ross. The preliminary plan included paving the area with concrete, creek stone and boulders. There were also Dawn Redwoods included in the illustration. Mr. Witcher advised the Council Members from Wards 1 and 4 had set aside funds for this project. Mr. Witcher then suggested raised planting beds/structures. After further discussion, it was decided that additional research was required. Mr. Witcher will contact the other council members for feedback. The board was asked to prepare a Letter of Recommendation following those findings.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall, City Clerk’s Office.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Chairman, Ian Hope

Secretary, Diane Whitbey