

**Hudson Urban Forestry Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Hudson City Council Chambers**  
**August 15, 2018**

**Members present:** Ken Holman, Mike Mroz, John Mueller, Sarah Atkins Hoggatt , Tim Hall, Starla Enger, Bill Bauman,

**Members Absent :** Liz Malanaphy

**Others present:** Buck Malick

Call to order By Chairman Holman at 6:32 pm

Discussion on Minutes of June 20, 2018; motion to approve by Enger second by Hall; Motion carried.

**1. Welcome new HUFB members:**

- a. Sarah Atkins Hoggatt: City council representative
- b. Mike Mroz: Public Works and Park Director

**2. Report by Gail Pronschinske; City of Hudson**

- a. Met with lead person for Zeillies Tree Service regarding removal of ash trees while line clearance is going on. Homeowners are being contacted; approx. 20 ash trees will be affected. Tree removal is being offered to homeowners if ash falls on private property. Homeowners will be notified if a tree is to be removed within a line clearance area. Door hangers are one method of communication.
- b. **Gravel bed:** 20 trees for school district, About 60 city trees. Some out-planting will occur at end of Sept. Locations have been selected. Early October will schedule tree planting day organized by HUFB.
- c. Ash tree removals: about 200 public ash trees have been removed. Trade a tree program is in process in areas where there is a high density of ash trees. One issue that can hinder replacement is underground utilities.
- d. Excel is strongly discouraging planting in areas where there is a high density of underground utilities. Possibility of obtaining green easements with homeowners to plant within private property in areas where underground utilities are in the way.
- e. Suggestion to ensure that permits are obtained by homeowners who want to plant within city right of way. Tree permitting policy needs to be promoted to public to increase awareness of the policy. Realtors, contractors etc. could be first line of communication to new homeowners.

### **3. 2018 Arbor Days report**

- a. School Arbor Day-Continue to invite schools to host Friday event. Next year potential schools include North Hudson, Houlton.
- b. City Arbor Day: Options will be explored for signage for lakefront park planting of Hoggatt's grove.
- c. Tree of the Year-Promotion: River Channel; contact Hudson star observer..

### **4. 2018 DNR Grant Updates:**

- a. Progress report was submitted on time to DNR
- b. Volunteer planting and maintenance: Partnered with Hudson Rotary Club, Hudson chamber of commerce and Hudson School District to plant and maintain 60 trees on private and public property
- c. Ash injections- Ongoing, 2<sup>nd</sup> round of treatments for high valued ash trees in Lakefront Park, the downtown and historic district. Tree inventory is being used to update trees treated previously that have not survived.
- d. Tree Treks-New Tree Trek is being installed in downtown historic area of Hudson with signs created by Willow River School, St. Pat's and Trinity Academy
- e. Trade a tree- Low priority ash trees have been removed in Golfview Neighborhood after homeowners were contacted. Sites for replacement plantings were identified and appropriate tree species will be planted to replace each tree utilizing trees currently in the gravel bed system.

### **5. 5 Year EAB budget**

- a. Timeline: Proposed budget to Dept Public Works Committee in September, to City Council by October.

### **8. Emerald ash borer arrival:**

- a. Press release has been published in Hudson Star observer.
- b. Outreach effort: New EAB information has been published on City Web page.
- c. EAB community resource guide could be used included on webpage.
- d. Method for dispersing EAB information flyer; door hangers; water bill; Tree service survey of potential ash tree removals, Holman will call Save a Tree to explore partnership with city.
- e. City tree inventory DNR Urban Forestry website Mroz will investigate sharing the link with the HUFB
- f. Hall will review and customize New Richmond flyer for Hudson. Submit suggestions to Tim Hall.
- g. Community EAB forum: suggestion to convene committee to explore organizing a community forum. There may be more interest now that EAB has arrived.

### **9. Future Topics**

- a. Selection of 2019 Tree of the year
- b. 2019 budget recommendations and assessment of staffing needs; possibility of including fulltime city forester.
- c. 2019 DNR grant: Discussion about components to be included, partnerships with neighboring communities
- d. Explore subsidizing removal of ash trees, possibly private sources of funding
- e. Investigate what other cities have done to deal with ash removal

- f. Staging areas for ash removal
  - g. Ash tree utilization
  - h. Use of goats for buckthorn control; evaluate how this management technique affects health of urban forest.
  - i. Spirit of St. Croix Art festival: anyone interested in taking 2 hour shift. Sept 22 and 23. Contact Holman if interested
10. Moved to Adjourn by Mroz second by Sarah Atkins Hoggatt, motion carried
- 11. Next meeting Sept 19, 2018 ; 6:30 pm, City Council Chamber**

**Submitted by John Mueller**  
**HUFB secretary**

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