

Salida Tree Board

Salida City Hall
448 E. 1st Street, Suite 112
719-539-4555
www.cityofsalida.com



A town without trees isn't fit for a dog!

Tree Board Meeting July 9, 2013

Members Present: Kevin Crowley, Marilyn Moore, Bob Salmi, Diana Smith

Also Present for Part of the Meeting: Monica Greisenbeck

Riverside Park: The bare spots created when the trees were removed will be sodded after Brewer's Rendezvous. The replacement trees will also be planted after Brewer's Rendezvous and can go in either before or after the sod is laid. Curtis Milstein and Gary Ludwig of Pleasant Avenue Nursery will coordinate the delivery of the trees.

Hackberries: There is a hackberry in Riverside Park and one in Alpine Park that is not looking good. Marilyn took a sample in to Kurt Jones at the CSU Extension Office, and he also looked at the trees. His diagnosis was leaf scorch and perhaps some herbicide damage from weed and feed. He also thought the trees were getting too much water. Roots cannot take up water in the absence of oxygen in water-logged soil.

Riverside Circle Bed: The ginnala maple in the circle bed will not be replaced as digging out the roots and planting a new tree would damage the existing shrubs and perennials.

Tree Maintenance: Monica is concerned that the city trees are not being maintained, only removed. While only trees that are dead or nearly so are being removed, the remaining trees need to be pruned, if only to remove dead limbs. Bob will create a list of citizens who contact the city about getting a city tree pruned, and he will ask for money in the budget for pruning as well as removals.

Sidewalks: Of the 30 miles of sidewalk in Salida, 5 are in bad shape and Bob wants to get started on replacing them. Council has decided that a sidewalk committee should be found to address the problem, and tree board would like to have input. Where sidewalks have been heaved by otherwise healthy trees, Bob sounded out Karl Hanlon on the question of getting easements from homeowners to route the new sidewalk around the trees, and he seemed OK with that. Diana will find out from the title companies what getting an easement would entail. We will also further investigate rubber sidewalks. Bob will attempt to prioritize which sidewalks are worse and should be replaced first.

Downtown Trees: There are two more dead/dying mountain ash that need to be removed. Bob will find out exactly how much the city is getting for the NRC trees. We can use those funds to replant the empty grates. The question is what species. Crabapples do well but their spreading

canopies create pedestrian and parked car issues. Honey locusts also do well but get tall and obscure signs.

Tree Stewards: Jean Wright has gotten the tree steward program up and running, and four tree stewards have gone out and evaluated the trees planted in the last five years, 2008 – 2012. Door hangers were filled out to let the homeowner know they were doing a good job or if the tree needed more water. It was noted if the tree needed pruning, and Jean and Marilyn have begun to prune those on the list.

NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, August 13, 8 am, Café Dawn