

Salida Tree Board

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

Board Meeting August 11, 2016

Members Present: Jill Flodstrom, Kathryn Hardgrave, Marilyn Moore, Bob Salmi

Also Present: Dave Lady, Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager

Memorial Tree: Marilyn met with Dave Hinman and Kevin Crowley and GPS'd a site for a memorial tree in Riverside Park, and Ashley Smith's family has been notified that there is a site available. They will choose a tree at Brady's, and Marilyn will urge them to have Curtis Milstein, rather than Brady's, plant the tree as Curtis will remove the burlap and wire basket.

GPS Tree Inventory: Dave Hinman has entered data on 991 trees in the city right-of-ways. Poncha Boulevard and the trees east of C Street are still to be done. Kathryn suggested inviting a reporter from the Mountain Mail to go out with Dave and write up a story about the inventory and the data he is collecting on the condition of the trees. Dave will report at the tree board meeting in September.

Watering Downtown Trees: Marilyn asked Bob to get the locations of the downtown trees where the water is running off rather than soaking in. Tree board volunteers may be able to clean out those grates and correct or at least improve the situation. Last month we discussed sinking PVC pipe in the tree wells for deep watering, and Bob thought that this was a job that the tree board volunteers could do.

Tree Removals: Adams Tree Service was to have removed 6 trees on the removal list last fall. This spring he removed two but has done nothing about the rest. Complete Tree Care has offered to remove the four remaining for what Adams would have charged. Marilyn has an email from Cheryl Clark listing the trees and the cost to remove that she will forward to Complete Tree Care.

2017 Tree Budget Request: Tree board will need to present a budget request to city council soon. The data gathered in the GPS inventory, including the number of trees that need to be pruned or removed, especially where there are safety issues, should be presented. Also included in the request should be pruning in at least one of the parks

(Chisolm or Thonoff), treating the American elms in the parks for scale, and pruning the honeylocust trees downtown where they are obscuring the businesses' signs and/or rubbing against the building.

Tree Conference: The 2016 Western Colorado Community Forestry Conference will be September 9 in Alamosa. The conference will focus on tree values, funding needs and costs associated with community forestry programs; more specific information will be forthcoming. Several tree board members are planning to attend, and the board thought that it would be worthwhile if we could encourage Kevin Crowley, Lynn, and perhaps the city's new finance director to attend.

NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, September 13, 8 am, River's Edge