

Salida Tree Board

Salida City Hall
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www.cityofsalida.com



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

Board Meeting April 10, 2018

Members Present: Dave Hinman, David Lady, Marilyn Moore, Diana Smith, Will Taliafero

Pruning and Removals: David reported that there are about 1 ½ days remaining on the contract with Terra Firma. Almost all the trees on the list below the mesa have been pruned or removed. David will wait to report until the end of the year on the total number pruned or removed. There is about \$3,000 remaining in the budget for unanticipated tree expenses.

Soft Scale Treatment of American Elms: Front Range Arborists has bid \$2500 to treat 35 American elms in Thonoff and Alpine Parks with imidacloprid. They can add acephate for another \$300 to speed uptake of the systemic. David is drawing up a contract for Front Range to apply both insecticides for a total cost of \$2800, which is \$1200 under budget.

Tree Guards: The bid price from Millstream in BV for ten tree guards to be installed in Riverside Park has increased to \$370 per guard due to the (expected?) increase in the price of steel. Six Line Metalworks in Salida has also submitted a design for tree guards at \$370 each. The board agreed that they prefer the design submitted by Millstream. Diana will take photos of the Millstream tree guards to Six Line and ask them for a bid on that design. \$3,000 was budgeted to purchase tree guards for the parks trees, which would only allow us to purchase eight trees. However, as the soft scale treatment came in under budget, adding that \$1200 to \$2960 would put us only a little over budget at \$4160 for 10 guards.

Downtown Tree Guards: Six Line has also submitted possible designs for guards for the downtown trees, one quite artistic (and expensive looking). David suggested that we should not go forward just now on tree guards for those trees. There may be funds available for their purchase from the Salida Business Alliance, the Salida Council for the Arts, and grants. Tom Pokorny may be willing to purchase guards for the trees he planted at the River Lofts.

Emerald Ash Borer: Kathryn Hardgrave did a workshop on looking for evidence of emerald ash borer infestation in green ash that Dave, Marilyn and Will attended. The procedure requires a draw knife, which may be available for our use at the CSFS office. Marilyn will write a letter to the licensed arborists asking for their help in monitoring for EAB. The letter will tell them how to take ash samples and ask them to drop them off at public works for examination.

Adopt-a-Tree Program: Quite a number of applications have been received since the planting program ended last year. There will be an article about the program in the Mountain Mail shortly. David commented that Poncha Springs gives successful Adopt-a-Tree applicants a voucher to purchase a tree, and the homeowner is responsible for planting and protecting the tree. We have always been told that the adopted trees must go in the city right-of-ways. David will check with the city's lawyer to ask if a program such as Poncha's would be allowed to plant trees in irrigated, private lawns – much the better location for a tree.

Arbor Day, May 17: The Arbor Day tree will be planted with help from Deb Colgate's fourth grade class from Longfellow, location still to be determined. There will be an article in the Mountain Mail soliciting Arbor Day donations and also a letter will go out to past tree adopters and donors.

NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, May 8, 8 am, in the Methodist Mountain Room at the Toubert Building