

Gretna Arbor Society
Tuesday, January 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Board Members: Ron Sawyer, Missy Ragatz, Dave Kovar, Jim Keepers, Jerry Imig, Amy Nakai, John Wolken, Marshall Jaros, Gretna City Council Representative Angie Lauritzen

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jim Keepers. Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Officers for 2020, nominated and approved by the Board will be Jim Keepers, President; John Wolken Secretary.

The Mayor and City Council have approved Marshall Jaros as our new member. Welcome and thank you to Marshall for joining; we are glad to have you on the team.

Member Amy Nakai has passed the Certified Arborist examination, congratulations to Amy.

On January 28 and 29 the annual Great Plains Conference of the Nebraska Arborists Association will be held in Lincoln. Three members are planning to attend.

The GretnaLife Community Expo is March 21 from 9:00 a.m. until Noon at the Middle School. We have requested a booth in the area we were in last year.

The 15th annual Gretna Tree Talk will be held on March 28 at Thomas Elementary; starting at 8:00 a.m. Jim has speakers Jan Rigggenbach, Rachel Anderson and Bob Hendrickson for presenters. Missy will prepare a poster and bookmark, Amy will gather refreshments, and John will coordinate the video systems.

Tree City USA awards will be April 9th in Ogallala, and April 16th in Norfolk.

The poster contest for 5th graders will have a theme for 2020 of “Plant Trees for Healthy Life” We have sponsors for each school and award winners. Judging will take place on April 15th, 5 p.m. at the library. The awards are 4/23/2020, Thursday evening at Thomas Elementary. Missy is working with the art teachers and a poster with sponsor’s business logos.

Arbor Day 2020, Friday April 24th, will be held at Gretna Elementary at 2:00 p.m.

The Gretna Days Parade for 2020 will be July 25th, as it is the 50th anniversary of the event we will plan to enter a float for that day.

Jim has submitted the application for the NRD grant, to plant trees at Leo Royal Park. He will order the trees in February to make sure we get the species desired.

Upcoming events this summer include the Field Day at Ashland on August 13 & 14, and the Tree Giveaway will be September 12th.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:58 p.m. Next meeting February 11, 2020

Respectfully, John Wolken, Secretary. February 4, 2020.