

Gretna Arbor Society
Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Jim Keepers, Amy Nakai, Marshall Jaros, Jerry Imig, Dave Kovar, Dan Hansen
Guests: Tyler Brooks, City Public Works

Meeting was held in Gretna Public Library Conference Room

Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Jim Keepers, minutes from Sept 13th were approved.

Tyler introduced himself and his position in the city of Gretna. Tyler requested any tree concerns within the city to be sent to him via email : tyler@cityofgretna.com

Jim, John and Missy attended the Tree City USA awards program on Sept 23rd in Norfolk, NE. Jim collected the award for Amy and awarded it officially to her during our Tree Giveaway. Jim is going to check with the newspapers to run details about Amy's award of the Community Forestry Green Industry Award for the state of Nebraska.

Gretna has been selected to host the 2023 Tree City USA awards program. Jim is contacting local business to look at hosting locations. All tree board members will need to help serve during the Tree City USA awards program next fall.

Gretna Arborist Society hosted the Gretna Tree Giveaway on Sept 24th. We gave away 150 trees and had none left over. Next years notes for reiterating to drive through, discussed parking next year and potential for not allowing people to pick up multiple trees as it created confusion.

There will be a Landscaping & Tree Workshop on Oct 18th. Marshall, Dan and Jim will attend. The cost is \$105 for 3 people.

Gretna Arborist Society hosted a Fall 10 Free trees (given from the Nebraska Forestry Services grant) planting as well as an additional 12 trees from our remaining budget on October 1st at Lincoln Park. In attendance for the planting were: Makovika Physical Therapy, Rooted Tree Specialists, Finders Keepers and the Gretna Arborist Society. The planting was successful and thanks to the City of Gretna, the holes were dug ahead of time and they came back around and watered for us afterward.

The budget has been set for next Fiscal Year 2023 of \$18,464. This is less than last year so we will have to adjust since prices of trees, supplies and mulch have increased in price.

Missy is working on a poster contest theme for the April 27th Poster Contest for the Elementary Schools.

Gretna Arbor Day Celebration is set for April 28th 2023. Gretna Elementary is set to host and we are awaiting confirmation.

Gretna Tree Talk is scheduled for March. Jim is seeking out information on a new location at potentially Journey church. Jim is working on exhibitors. Amy will help seek donations for raffles.

Missy is working on banners for the Gretna Arborist Society.

Gretna Crossings Park is doing their city tree dedication on October 17th.

Jim has emailed the Mayor to ask for updates on the new FEMA park in Gretna for tree planting purposes.

John, Marshall and Jerry would like to attend arborist school next year. They will submit a scholarship and the remainder will be paid out of the Gretna Arborist Society budget. The arborist society will look into the budget and see how many people can attend.

Jim helped Amy and her company, Rooted Tree Specialists, plant another 10 free trees in an Omaha city park on October 7th. He donated his time, resources and supplies to help get this accomplished.

There will be no December Arborist Society meeting.

Earth Day/ Arbor Day options to help clean local parks. Amy asked Tyler to let us know if there are specific parks that need cleaning in and around Gretna.

During Gretna Days, Jim discussed the potential of having a company showcase what climbing a tree looks like or an aerial rescue.

The upcoming NRD grant will most likely be written for trees to be planted at Lincoln Place.

The Gretna Chamber of Commerce is hosting their annual dinner at St. Patrick's church in November. The Arborist Society will pay to bring one member to the dinner.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Next November 8th, 2022

Respectfully, Amy Nakai, board member October 13, 2022