

**CITY OF AURORA
TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES: January 19, 2021
Prepared: Tuesday, April 20, 2021**

The Aurora Tree Commission met via Zoom on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Deborah Davis at 5:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present:	Deborah Davis – Chairman Laurena Entsminger Martha Sickinger Rob Swaney – Vice Chairman Jim Tomko James Vaca
Also Present:	Ben Askren – City Arborist Amy Martin – Recording Secretary Laura Holman-Director
Absent:	Kim Pease

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: To adopt the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting as submitted

Mr. Vaca moved; Dr. Tomko seconded, and the motion carried, on a unanimous voice vote.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

During November's meeting Ms. Sickinger stated that there is a Spruce tree at 1020 East Blvd that is covering the school sign. Mr. Askren took a look at it and said that it was fine. Marty will keep an eye on it and let Ben know if it becomes a problem.

ARBORIST REPORT:

Spring Tree Planting

Bids are out for planting trees in the Beljon Farms Subdivision, Phase II. City wide tree planting is still being put together. As of now about 20 sites have been looked at.

Tree Maintenance

Trees at the Hartman House have been removed. Stump grinding will be underway soon. Bids have come back for Spring Tree Maintenance. 809 trees will be pruned in The Lakes of Aurora, Walden, and Woodview Estates. Falls Tree Experts was low bidder.

Tree Museum

Material for the arches should have been delivered. Arrangements for auger to drill holes have been made. Material for Kiosks has been purchased. Tree trimming has been done on 90 percent of the trees.

Tree City USA/Growth Award

Tree City USA – Tree Cities of the World

OLD BUSINESS:

- Landscape Awards 2019-2020
- Tree City/ Growth Awards
- Arbor Day deadline is April 9th 2021 but may try to push it back to the 13th

NEW BUSINESS:

- Calendar Review (all meetings remain via Zoom)

MISCELLANEOUS:

Ms. Davis congratulated everyone on the extra 10 points that we received for Tree City. Ms. Davis asked Ben what invasive species was removed. Mr. Askren said it was a Buckhorn.

Mr. Vaca would like to implement a Christmas tree pickup program with three drop-off sites. Will provide more information during February's meeting.

Ms. Davis asked Ms. Martin if she was able to get start dates for committee members and Ms. Martin responded that her records only go back to 2007 and that she had reached out to City Hall and was hoping to get dates.

Ms. Martin gave update on 2019 Landscape Awards. Awards are being engraved by Olympic Awards and all letter have been sent out. Ms. Davis will hand deliver once we receive the awards.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Sickinger moved to adjourn and Mr. Vaca seconded. All in favor with a voice vote 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Deborah Davis – Chairman

Amy Martin – Recording Secretary Pro-Tem