

January 15, 2008 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05

Present: Jim Larson, Margi Preus, Ethan Perry, John Doberstein, Rick Gitar, Kelly Fleissner

Absent: Christine Perry, Brian Allen, Louise Levy, Rob Marohn

November Minutes approved

Updated address for John Doberstein
1017 London Rd. Apt. 302
Duluth, MN 55802

Forester's Report

Sky Harbor Airport

- Kelly attended a meeting of reps from a variety of agencies (corps of engineers, MNDOT, DNR, etc) SCH engineering will take lead on issues
- public advisory committee meeting coming up soon

Nopeming water line – not much happened yet; trying to help find solutions

Conveyance of Lester & Piedmont, finally off back burner. This should be moving ahead

Unleashed dog trail; task force meeting next week to discuss potential for this

Kelly presented information about park maintenance organization and functions and budget/

Jim reported on status of pine logging at Hartley, which is probably not going to happen this year because it's not feasible for the loggers contacted so far. One option is a timber framer who is interested in using the logs on site to build an amphitheater.

Trees in the News

Article in DNT about tree-scaping awards.

Rick noted an article regarding the fed budget being put on-line. 2200 pages of federal budget; 3,000 copies. On line it will save 480 trees, millions of dollars.

McQuade plantings

- perhaps a phone call to DNR to find out what is planned?

Tree cover research

Ethan

- re: grant to research tree cover in Duluth. Tom Hollenhurst GIS specialist w/NRRI is interested in working with us to write a grant; to Coastal Grant prgrm
- volunteer hours can help work towards match; may need to apply elsewhere for funding to help achieve matching funds; Brian has some ideas on this?

- Ethan will keep working with NRRI to find out sources of funding and application for Coastal Grant, etc.; Jesse Schoenberg might have more ideas for funding sources

Tree Ordinance

Ethan reported on studies done by USFS Pacific Research station (?) for northeast, great plains, (but not our area) on figuring out dollar values for trees. Using their methods, we may be able to calculate \$ value for our trees. Somebody want to volunteer to work on this?

- tree reduces the amount of run off under that tree by 7%; depending on whether there are a lot of small rains or a big rain event; deciduous--leaves on or off, etc.
 - developed a formula for how much dollar value trees provide. In addition to storm water run off, energy usage; air pollution absorption, etc.
 - 40 yr old tree in New York city provides about 4-4.5 k for its 40 years, including the \$ for care in its life time
 - great plains; 1 tree= \$1,000.
 - Here? We don't know!
 - Montgomery, Alabama has 33% canopy; \$454 million worth of water/ 20 year cycle
- Ethan will do an ordinance presentation to the Duluth Garden Society next month;

Tree Permit

- Ethan will make the changes we discussed at the tree ordinance meeting in early Dec.
- Rick will work on the wording for the exemptions to requiring a permit.

Tree ordinance meeting will be held Jan. 29, 2008 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.