

Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board

(Auburn Community Forest Working Group of SNRB)

Minutes 4 20 23 Approved: 8 17 23

6:00 PM Auburn Sr. Center

Present: Dave Griswold, Roger Fuller, Zoe Lidstrom, Steve Murch, Jeremy Lavertu

Excused: Rhyanna Larose, Cassidy Cloutier, Sam Boss

-Call to Order – 6:11

- 3 16 23 minutes: Approved

-Public Participation: None-

- Project Canopy Grants to celebrate 20 years of TCUSA 2003-2022: Jan Santerre expects grants will be awarded in early May, ahead of Maine Arbor Week

Discussion of 2022 plantings and removals of street trees: Steve reported that Lewiston had a budget of \$20,000 for street trees last year, but there are rumors that it will be cut in this year's budget. Noel will provide an update when it is available. (update: Dave found the Auburn budget for this year was \$20,000, but the City Manager's proposed budget is \$16,500.)

Arbor Week Plans: Trees for the nursery will arrive early, and Steve does not want to wait until Arbor Week to plant them, due to problems doing that last year. He will let the group know when they will be planted so we can help if available. Plan for an Arbor Week event, required for TCUSA, is to plant a Homestead Elm from the nursery at Simard and Bonney Parks. These are the first trees planted at the nursery. They have been heavily browsed by deer, but have potential to grow correctly if pruned and planted away from deer. They are better suited to being in a park than as street trees at this point. Using nursery trees will keep cost down and highlight LACFB accomplishments. Zoe is exploring cost of signage to document the trees as planted as part of the 20th Year of TCUSA.

Dave and Steve will make arrangements for TCUSA proclamations.

The Forest Service Arbor Week event will be at the Viles Arboretum in Augusta on the morning of 5 19. Details will follow.

Assuming the grants are approved, further discussion is needed to schedule tree planting at Auburn schools.

New Business:

- Nursery: Steve reports that the power for the well pump at the nursery is no longer available, due to the sale of the Lake Auburn Community Center. He will arrange for an alternative.
- Outreach for student representatives: Dave and Roger will reach out to Auburn and Lewiston Schools to try again to solicit student members for LACFB. Hopefully we can get juniors who will stay for senior year.
- Steve is discussing a potential stand of ash for a biological control release with MFS. He can fill Noel in and see if Noel is interested for a site with a good ash component in Auburn.

- Adjourn: 7:13