

Gretna Arbor Society
Tuesday, February 14, 2023, Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jim Keepers, Angie Lauritsen, Jerry Imig, Dave Kovar, Marshall Jaros, John Wolken, Dan Hansen, City Council President Bill Proctor
Meeting was held in Gretna Main Public Library Conference room.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jim Keepers. Minutes of January 10, 2023 meeting were approved.

Jim is working on a grant application with the Arbor Day Foundation for tree funding.

The NRD Grant application is under review for approval, planting will be this spring at the Lincoln Place Park.

The annual Gretna Tree Talk is scheduled for March 4, 2023 at Harvest Hills elementary school. Funds from rebates for returning the grow bags to Great Plains Nursery will be used to purchase 4 trees as door prizes. The school will have student volunteers available to assist. Jim is working on other door prizes, Angie and Missy are sending cards and notices to area residents.

The Annual Poster Contest is underway with all seven elementary schools. Missy has sent info to all the schools, we are working on getting sponsors for the prize awards. Award amounts will be \$30 1st, \$25 2nd, and \$20 3rd.

The Arbor Day and Poster Contest Awards events will both be held on Thursday, April 27th as there is no school on Friday the 28th. Arbor Day celebration will be at 2:15 at Gretna Elementary, the Awards will be at Harvest Hills at 7:00 p.m.

The Gretna Days parade will be on Saturday, July 29th, once a theme is announced we can plan to design the float we will enter.

The September Tree Giveaway will be scheduled pending UNL football dates.

Nebraska Arborist Association summer field day has yet to be scheduled.

Trees for Fall Planting, a grant provided by the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum has an application due date of July 1, 2023. This would be for up to ten trees. We also discussed obtaining grant funding for tagging ash trees within the city.

Jim sent drafts for the programming at the Nebraska Forest Service Community Forestry awards we will host in September, no response as yet. The date of the event is September 29, 2023.

Ron Sawyer's family has contacted us regarding using memorial funds for Ron to plant trees. We will work on details once we have confirmation to proceed.

Crab apple trees in Leo Royal Park have been removed.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:52 p.m. Next meeting March 14, 2023

Respectfully, John Wolken, Secretary. March 7, 2022

