

Gretna Arbor Society
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jim Keepers, Amy Nakai, Angie Lauritsen, Jerry Imig, Dave Kovar, Marshall Jaros, John Wolken

Dan Hansen, City Council President Bill Proctor

The meeting was held in Gretna Main Public Library Conference room.

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Jim Keepers. Minutes for the May meeting were approved.

We reviewed the Arbor Day Celebrations, we had good media coverage in the local papers, including the online and Facebook editions.

The Poster Contest Awards ceremony was very well attended, thanks to the staff at Harvest Hills Elementary for setting up the chairs in the commons area. The winners completed the necessary paperwork regarding the prizes, and these will be delivered to the city office.

The tree planting at Lincoln Place Park was a success, with many volunteers. Members of Ron Sawyer's family attended as we planted six trees just north of the ball diamond. Volunteers were from the Girl Scouts, Makovicka Physical Therapy, Rooted Tree Specialists, Everbright Solar, and local Master Gardeners.

The tree near Woodland Drive and 168th St. was inspected by Jim and Travis, they will schedule work as needed in the future.

We have a firm date scheduled for the Tree City USA awards on September 29th. Jim has a tentative agenda for the day, details to come on catering and the total number of attendees. Members of Gretna Arbor Society will be able to attend at no cost.

The annual NAA field days are August 10 and 11 at Carol Joy Holling near Ashland, we are waiting for details on the program and itinerary.

John offered a date to build the float for the Gretna Days Parade of July 22. We are registered with the Gretna Days Foundation to enter the parade.

The September Tree Giveaway will be September 9th. We discussed the registration, funding available and publicity for the event.

The NSA has a grant available for fall tree planting, for up to 10 trees. Jim is working with this, the application deadline is July 1, 2023.

Dates for the NAA arborist schools are set in September, October, and November. They have different requirements for their scholarship program this year.

Dedication of the new park area at Gretna Crossing is September 16th.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Next meeting June 13, 2023

Respectfully, John Wolken, Secretary June 7, 2023