

Gretna Arbor Society  
Tuesday, July 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jim Keepers, Amy Nakai, Angie Lauritsen, 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 7:00 p.m. by Jim Keepers. Minutes for the June 13 meeting were approved.

Discussion regarding adding an additional board member: To add a member, there would need to be a change in the City Ordinance. Angie made a motion, seconded by Dave, to pursue putting this on the agenda for a future City Council meeting to either add a member or have an Associate/Alternate.

Marshall has inspected the newly planted trees in Lincoln Place Park. He reported that a total of 11 trees did not survive the dry weather this spring. We will look into the options to replace them as soon as possible. All six of the trees planted in Ron's memory were lost in addition to 5 of the NRD funded trees. We did receive the full reimbursement from the NRD for the trees and supplies used to plant them.

We have a firm date scheduled for the Tree City USA awards on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Jim has an agenda for the day. We are looking at sponsorship for the meal, possibly Big Muddy Workshop. We will continue to seek additional sponsors for other costs. 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, several members will attend the Friday, August 11 portion of the event.

The date to gather and construct the Gretna Days Parade Float is Saturday, July 22 at John's shop.

The September Tree Giveaway will be September 9<sup>th</sup>. Jim will soon visit Great Plains Nursery, they have offered us first choice from their inventory when we place the order. The number of trees we purchase will be determined soon pending availability of funds.

The NSA has a grant available for fall tree planting, for up to 10 trees. Jim has submitted the application.

Dates for the NAA arborist schools are set in September, October, and November. Applications for scholarships have been submitted for John and Marshall.

Jim has compiled a list of hazard trees within the city and sent it to city hall so they can notify the homeowners. Further discussion held regarding the trees near Lake Ridge Estates was held, specific interpretation of the City Ordinances will determine how these are handled. Jim and Amy will work on this.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:06 p.m. Next meeting August 8, 2023

Respectfully, John Wolken, Secretary July 31, 2023