

Gretna Arbor Society  
Tuesday, September 12, 2023, Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jim Keepers, Amy Nakai, Angie Lauritsen, Dave Kovar, Marshall Jaros, Jerry Imig, 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 7:01 p.m. by Jim Keepers. Minutes for the August 8 meeting were approved.

Recap of the Tree Give Away on September 9<sup>th</sup>, it went very well. We did not hear any complaints from the public. The change to passing out the mulch before the trees helped a lot. We did have a number of registered folks who were no-shows, but we also had some who “Saw the Signs” and picked up trees. We gave away 25 maples, may reduce that quantity in the future. 10 different varieties were offered, this worked well.

The Grand Opening of GXP Gretna Crossing Park is Saturday, September 16 at 10:00 a.m.

We reviewed the NAA Field day event held in August. It was generally good, although one of the speakers could have been better. Dr. John Ball was excellent.

Planting for the 10 free trees and the additional trees purchased to replace dead trees in Lincoln Place Park is scheduled for September 23. The trees will arrive Friday. The city crews will dig the planting holes (locations marked by Amy and Travis). The city will provide mulch material. Jim will bring tree guards and posts. The dead trees have been removed by the city.

The 2023 TCUSA and NFS Conference is Friday, September 29. We will set up the tables and chairs in the room at Journey Church on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. We have enough contributions (\$1400) to cover our costs for the meal and door prizes. Our team is scheduled to arrive at 8:15 on Friday to set up with the program beginning at 9:00.

Jim was contacted by a company called “E-Local” about producing a web video about our team. Apparently, this involves a significant cost so we will not pursue it at this time.

The city is working on plans for removal of dead/dying green ash trees. Amy is working with some local businesses on the same issue.

No news tonight on the poster contest.

We had a short discussion on the concept of marking green ash trees in the city next year. We have not decided the details yet.

Jim has submitted an application to NAA for the Community Landscape Award on behalf of our Board.

Members are reminded to have the annual hours report available at the October meeting. This is for reporting on the TCUSA Growth Award.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:32 p.m. Next meeting October 10, 2023

Respectfully, John Wolken, Secretary October 3, 2023