

Parks Board Tree Committee Meeting
September 12, 2016
Dan S, Bob M, James C, Corey T

1) Pruning reminders

Fall and winter is the time to prune when trees and shrubs are dormant. The Tree committee agreed to canvas the city for foliage that inhibits passage or obstructs pedestrian or motorists' vision. When violations are discovered, pamphlets (that have been previously printed) will be placed on the door handles of houses as reminders for residents to prune. Bob will take the section of the city on Broadway where he currently waters; James will take the east side including Platt, Haggin, and Cooper Avenues; Dan and Corey will split up the west side of Broadway.

2) The two dead trees by the Clay Center are now gone. James is going to apply root killer to expedite their decay.

3) Corey and James will check in with BAM about the 10 tree guards ordered for the MDOT trees on the north end of town, 2 tree grates, affixing a sign in Pride Park, and relocating the 2 tree guards taken from the Clay Center trees to the new trees near Junction 7.

4) Potential grants:

a. Arbor Day grant for next year due in Jan. James will write.

b. Re-up the tree certification due in Jan. James will take care of this.

c. Urban Forest Development grant must be applied for by Jan. or Feb. Grant idea: inventory all trees in the city, on both public and private land, to achieve species' locations and to determine species' successes. This will update our current data base, and utilize the GIS/GPS technology we have available. Dan will write this with James' help.

d. ReLeaf grant program for schools. Dan will talk to Kate Belinda, HS science teacher, about possibly asking for money for trees in the HS area of Coal Miners Park.

e. Tree City of the Year for Montana. James will look into this grant possibility.

5) Bob reported that the Airport Trail's south loop has a large pile of branches and trees that were trimmed by MDOT this summer which should be burned this winter.

6) Concern was raised by all about the continual care and maintenance MDOT trees and plantings along highway 212 that MDOT planted. MDOT will replace dead trees within one year of planting (check them next spring). Apparently drip heads were set up by the MDOT trees and a meter for them at Town Pump, but no one knows if there is a line that connects the trees and if the trees have been watered this summer. If the line does exist, it must be blown out for the winter. James will follow up with Jeff Dykama, project manager for MDOT.

7) Spring of 2017:

a. Fertilize trees again.

b. The tree weevil problem needs to be addressed either by immediately cutting out contaminated areas and/or treating the trees chemically, which can be done in the spring or fall.

c. Keep the tree cost share program going!

d. Arbor Day event ideas: either by the trees by the Clay Center or maybe combine this with a ReLeaf celebration if this happens.