



Forestry Advisory Committee Meeting

January 8, 2015
Sturgis Fire Hall – 6:00 pm

Members Present: Bill McKee, Ken Meirose, Ron Waterland, and Gene Stock.

Members Absent: Aaron Jordan

Others Present:

Agenda Items:

1. Approve Minutes:
Bill made a motion to approve minutes from the November, 2014 meeting; second motion was made by Ken, minutes approved.

2. Tree Planting List for ROW:
Passed out the "The Planting Guide for City of Sturgis" booklet. All the members really liked the book. It was suggested that we add some of the information to the Parks website and in the newspaper. Discussed having some of the books at City Hall to pass out with the application for planting trees in ROW

3. Annual Work Plan:
 - Discussed Atlas Storm Clean up and it was determined that it isn't completely finished. Most of the lower damage is cleaned up. We need to borrow Public Works bucket truck to reach the higher stuff.
 - Discussion was made about interplanting some newer trees in with the older trees this fall to replace some of the trees that will be dying off due to the damage from the Atlas Storm.
 - Gene and Angie will check into some grants to acquire some more trees with the plan of planting them this fall
 - It was decided that the Freedom Memorial should be finished with the deadline of October 31, 2015.
 - Continue spraying for MPB
 - Arbor Day is planned for May 2015
 - Maintain trees this summer

4. FYI Mountain Pine Beetles:
 - Discussed the status of MPB bids. Gene said he received the bids and now is negotiating prices.

- Discussed using DOC to help clean roads on the watershed
- Ron discussed taking City Council members up to visit the watershed to see if there may be some things we can do to promote use of the area (ie... volksmarch, bird watching, primitive camping, hiking.)
- Gene informed the members that we have more trees infected with MPB than last year. He is thinking that if we can find a way to get some thinning of trees done in the area, that would be a big factor in controlling the MPB

Other Matters:

Tree Works software:

Bill asked about the status of the Tree Works Software. Gene informed him that we are still in the process of trying to acquire it. We need to contact the state and check on the price.

Ron suggested GIS classes at The School of Mines to help us with getting the Tree inventory going. Gene informed them that Angie will be taking some classes starting next month.

The next Forestry Meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by Angie Shideler