

Campus Landscape & Beautification Committee

April 5, 2016

Present: Mikhail Bobylev, Ash Bowen, DeVera Bowles, Linda Conn, Patty Hunt, Robert Kibler, Sue Lommen, Karen Self, Alexey Shipunov, and Deb Wentz

1. Minutes of the March 8, 2016 meeting were approved as presented
2. All committee members were asked to review the Tree Care Plan and offer suggestions for improvements. There were several suggestions which included:

Campus tree removal policy - under section for tree removal

- Need to define "hazardous" tree – the committee agreed it should read "immediate danger to life or property"
- Need to also add "Trees that the city of Minot has deemed to be removed due to disease after we conduct our own diagnosis and concur with the city's assessment"

Under section outlining policy for not dead, dying or hazardous trees –

- We should address what should be done about volunteer trees that sprout on their own – what is the current policy? We have never had a problem with volunteer growth as all our trees are mature. Once we have a campus map of all the trees, it will be easier to determine those that could be removed if sprouted voluntarily.

Much discussion regarding the removal of trees prior to committee consent. Some suggestions were offered:

- This committee should look at appointing an executive board that could meet on short notice and respond in a timelier manner to tree removal requests. Currently, Alexey Shipunov, DeVera Bowles, and Brian Smith serve as co-chairs for this committee. Since some of these decisions could happen at a time when faculty would not be available for a meeting, it was suggested that there be a couple of staff persons added to the committee. Karen Self and Patty Hunt agreed to also serve on this committee. Would need a quorum of three in reaching any decisions.
- There was also some discussion regarding who would serve as officers on this committee. This item was tabled until our May meeting.
- Dedicated trees have been identified and will be added to the web site once it is up. Suggestion was made that we tour dedicated trees at our next meeting.

In regard to Finances:

- Bowen will check on expense of a sign machine
- Student fees may be an option for future funding of this committee

It was suggested that everyone once again go through the Tree Care Plan so we can finalize this at our next meeting. We would like to have some standards in place before the summer break so grounds crew can go ahead with what they need to do.

Our next meeting will be on May 3 at 1:00 in the Westlie Room.

A detailed agenda will be forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Wentz