

MURRAY CITY POWER
Shade Tree & Beautification Commission
Murray City, Utah
November 9, 2023

Minutes of the Murray City Power Shade Tree & Beautification Commission meeting held on November 9th at Murray City Power located at 153 West 4800 South, Murray, Utah.

Shade Tree & Beautification Commission

Darin Bird
Jan Evans
Geneal Nelson
Judith Payne

Department Staff

Matt Erkelens, Forestry Supervisor
Bruce Holyoak, Park Superintendent (excused)
Barbara Ishino, MCP Staff

Jan called the meeting to order at 9:04 am. Jan then asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes. There were none. Darin made a motion to approve the June and August minutes. Judith seconded the motion.

Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Visit

Matt shared with the Commission the following about the Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday, December 2nd at 6:00 pm at the new city Hall, 10 East 4800 South:

Michelle has been working with the tree supplier and they are working on getting everything done and out toward the end of the week.

She continues to follow up with them.

Jeff Martin and Matt Erkelens will be helping get the 70' tree and 4 additional trees put up when they get here. They are specialty trees with lights (no artificial greenery). The trees will also have music. They will need to know how to turn all the lights on at the same time.

Barbara contacted Lindsey from the Miss Murray organization. They know to have Miss Murray (and little Miss Murray at the fire station on 4800 South at 5:15 pm on December 2nd).

Barbara confirmed with Sheri Van Bibber. The Murray Youth Community Council is bringing hot chocolate (outside). They will also be having a toy drive. Those who wish to donate, should bring an unwrapped toy.

Barbara also contacted Krystin Elder regarding the music. They met with Josh Sturges. He is going to let the students into the building. The students will perform in the Poplar Meeting

Room. Josh will provide the mats for the hallway and in the Poplar room to protect the carpets/flooring. He will also move the chairs as talked about. Krystin will be taking care of the sound equipment.

Advertising has been sent to Kathy for the Mayor's newsletter and the Murray City Journal. There has been a post on Facebook and there will be more. Flyers will be distributed to Murray Elementary Schools.

Matt is working on the prop for the mayor to use to "turn on" the lights.

Power office is preparing the treats, making signs for the door that "say no food or drink inside", and getting the backdrop.

Matt has scheduled the cadets.

Matt has scheduled Santa and will bring Santa's chair.

Matt has arranged for the fire department to bring Santa and Miss Murray to City Hall.

It was decided NOT to have food trucks at the event.

Kim Sorenson will have garbage cans outside and at the entrances to City Hall. He will also ensure that the street is closed near City Hall (5th Avenue & Hanauer)

Matt confirmed that the children will enter the east entrance, go down the hall and through the Poplar room, then continue to the indoor Christmas tree, which will be in the South foyer.

Darin asked about decorating inside. He was told the committee doesn't need to decorate inside, that the 15' tree will be put up and a garland will be on the railing. Both will be installed by professional decorators.

Matt also reported that there will be an arch/tunnel of lights outside that the Forestry Division will be helping to install.

After some discussion it was decided that the Committee will not come in the morning to help prepare for the event. They will come at 5:30 pm.

Matt and the Forestry Division will be there at 10:00 am to set up Santa's chair, the backdrop and the stanchions. They will also put up some chairs in the south foyer.

Geneal asked who would be putting the candy bars together and was told that the Murray City Power office would be.

Jan asked about advertising for the event. She was told that it would be in the Murray Journal, the Mayor's newsletter and Facebook. Flyers would be sent to Murray Elementary Schools.

Judith told how excited she was to be a part of the celebration.

Jan wondered if a sign needed to be put up on the doors of the old city hall. The Committee felt that they didn't need to do that.

2024 Meeting Schedule

The proposed 2024 Shade Tree and Beautification Meeting Schedule was distributed.

There was mention that the Arbor Day Celebration, which is usually held on Friday, would be on Thursday in 2024. Judith reported that Cathy from the Nature Center has confirmed that she has scheduled the busses.

Darin offered to send a text to the State Forester to let her know of the date. (Thursday, May 2nd)

Matt asked if the meeting schedule was OK. The Committee said, yes.

Shade Tree Commission

Darin asked if the Commission would be done serving after Arbor Day and the Committee said, yes.

Geneal wondered what would need to be done in the meantime to find replacements.

Matt said that there would be a meeting with management to see what to do.

Judith underscored that a replacement was never found for Jim Hendrickson's district. She suggested that the mayor knows a lot more people and could maybe find someone.

Darin suggested Carina Dibb, mother of the citywide poster contest winner in 2023.

Judith suggested Annette Warburton, who loves to garden and who is responsible.

Jan said how much she would miss being on the Committee and that maybe her brother could take over for her. She would be willing to fill in when he couldn't be there.

Darin did note that this would likely be a management decision. He said that commissions aren't as big a deal as they used to be 10-20 years ago and that some management sees them as "something to have to deal with".

Darin said that if new commission members are chosen, it might be a good idea for them to come to the last meeting so they can see what the commission does.

Judith thought it would be good for them to come early to learn about the responsibilities.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Darin moved to adjourn the meeting. All agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 am.

Minutes recorded and transcribed by Barbara Ishino. The Commission will meet again on Saturday, December 2, 2023, at the new city hall (10 East 4800 South) at 5:30 pm. The Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will be that same evening at 6:00 pm.

The next in person meeting will be on Monday, February 5th, 2024, at 8:00 am in the Murray City Power office located at 153 West 4800 South.