

MURRAY CITY POWER
Shade Tree & Beautification Commission
Murray City, Utah
March 25, 2024

Minutes of the Murray City Power Shade Tree & Beautification Commission meeting held on March 25th 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

Visitor

Cathy Singer, Nature Center

Jan called the meeting to order at 8:03 am and said how much she has loved serving with all of the members.

Darin asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes. There were none. Jan made a motion to approve the February minutes. Judith seconded the motion.

Arbor Day Thursday, May 2nd

It was decided that Darin emcee the program.

Cathy said that there would be 4 students recite poetry and that when she found out their names, she would email them to Barbara so they could be included on the program.

Matt asked about who would introduce and accept the honorary tree certificate. Darin suggested Kim or the mayor give a 2–3-minute history of the park, arboretum, or Indian head. It was decided that Barbara reach out to Bruce and have him let her know how the Parks Department wanted to proceed.

Matt reported that 9 workshops have been scheduled and another one is being worked on.

Cathy then reported that even though she scheduled the busses in the fall of last year, there has been a problem. Due to bus driver shortages, the school's Transportation Department felt that they couldn't bring the children back at the scheduled time. The buses will have to pick up the

children early. One school will leave at 1:15 pm and one school at 1:30 pm. This will affect the educational sessions which were supposed to last until 2:30 or 3:00 pm.

After much discussion it was decided to have Barbara ask the Parks Department if they would be willing to have a s'mores session* at 11:00 am to accommodate the students who need to leave early. Cathy would reach out to those schools and see which sessions they most want to attend. She would then divide the students to ensure they get to go their favorite sessions. The remaining students would then attend all the workshops and the groups would be much smaller than usual.

The adjusted schedule for 2 of the schools will be: arrive, eat lunch, s'mores, program and 2-3 educational sessions.

Darin wanted to know if Matt could have a flag to present to Jaime Barnes, State Forester. Matt said that he would have that ready. Darin also asked that Barbara reach out and invite Jaime to the lunch prior to the program.**

It was decided that Jan would lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Geneal and Judith will read the names of the winners.

Matt asked if the mayor was coming. It was reported that the mayor has been asked and is planning on attending and saying a few words.

Matt will get a map of the educational sessions. Barbara will distribute them to the presenters. Geneal asked that a correction be made on the program, changing the time of the educational sessions from 12:30-3:00 pm to 12:30-2:00 pm.

Next year's schedule was discussed, and the following will be considered:

- **For Visiting Schools**
- Educational sessions: 9:30-11:30 am
- Lunch: 11:30 am-12:00 noon.
- Program: 12:00 noon to 12:30 pm

- **For Poster Winners**
- Lunch: 10:45-11:45 am
- Program: 12:00 noon to 12:30 pm

Matt reminded the Commission that the Arbor Day Resolution will be read on Tuesday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm at the City Council meeting if they wanted to attend.

Future of the Shade Tree and Beautification Commission

Darin mentioned that he had seen the mayor at an event recently. He let the mayor know that as a part of maintaining the Tree City USA, a committee of volunteers needs to meet and report to the City Forester. Therefore, the Parks Department can't take over the Commission.

The Commission suggested that the mayor's office consider the following to find replacements:

- Place an ad in the Murray Journal

- Put a message in the mayor's e-newsletter
- Use social media

Darin suggested that the Commission meet one more time post Arbor Day. At that meeting they would make a list of their responsibilities for their successors. He felt it would be fun to meet one last time. In addition, he assigned each Commission member to bring a name that the mayor could consider for the Commission. This would be an official meeting and would be held on Monday, May 6th at 8:00 am at the Power Department. Geneal felt it would be good to meet and that the new members will have to jump right in to judge the Jim and Jean Beautification Awards.

The Commission requested that Barbara send them the dates of their service on the Commission.***

Visitor

Greg Bellon, Power Director, stopped by. He thanked the Commission for their service and told them how impressed he was at the length of their service.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Darin moved to adjourn the meeting. Judith and Jan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 am.

Minutes recorded and transcribed by Barbara Ishino. The Commission will meet again on Thursday, May 2nd at 11:15 am just prior to the noon Arbor Day Celebration.

The next in person meeting will be on Monday, May 6th, 2024, at 8:00 am in the Murray City Power office located at 153 West 4800 South.

*The Park's Department was kind enough to have a s'mores station at 11:00 am and after the program.

**Jaime Barnes was invited to the lunch and will attend.

***Dates of services were sent on March 25, 2024.