

MURRAY CITY POWER
Shade Tree & Beautification Commission
Murray City, Utah
January 5, 2021

Minutes of the Murray City Power Shade Tree & Beautification Commission meeting held on January 5, 2021 via a Zoom Conference call.

Shade Tree & Beautification Commission

Darin Bird
Dr. Jan Evans
Geneal Nelson
Judith Payne
Jim Hendrickson (Passed away, December 3, 2021)

Department Staff

Matt Erkelens, Forestry Supervisor
Bruce Holyoak, Park Superintendent
Barbara Ishino, Power Department

Matt Erkelens called the meeting to order at 2:33 pm.

Minutes from the last meeting of the Shade Tree Commission were approved by Judith. Dr. Evans seconded the motion.

Poster Contest

Matt asked Darin if the poster contest was still going to be sponsored by the State. Darin contacted Jeran and was told that last year's state-wide winners would be honored in 2021 but that there would NOT be a poster contest or Arbor Day Celebration. (As a reminder, Murray City Power honored the City winners by having a "drive by" where the winners received their posters, certificates and prizes.)

Prior to Darin getting the response, the following was discussed:

Judith reported that she didn't know if any teachers would be able to take the time in class to make posters.

Dr. Evans thought "err on the side of caution" and that getting paper to the students with teachers being so taxed that it wouldn't be good to add stress.

It was unanimously agreed that the poster contest would be canceled for 2021.

Arbor Day

Judith called and spoke with Scott Bushnell, Assistant Superintendent of Murray School District. She was told that no field trips are being scheduled. The committee recognized that teachers are

having a shortened school schedule, are dealing with in home school, in person school, hybrid learning and are extremely stressed. With masks, socially distancing and COVID concerns Judith reported the school didn't think they would have any classes be able to attend Arbor Day. "The school just doesn't see it happening. It would be "iffy" at best."

Bruce reported that nothing is going on at all at the nature center. Judith said she didn't think she would be back to work there this year.

Matt asked that Bruce still keep Pavilion #2 reserved and Bruce said he would. Currently, they are waiting on the sod to be put in but that it would likely be done by May 7th (Arbor Day for Murray City).

Arbor Day won't happen as it was for sure.

Grant Discussion

Darin reported that the grant applications will be accepted beginning July 1st and will end the first week of September.

It was decided that at the February 2nd meeting, the committee would brainstorm and discuss ideas for the grant.

- Have Matt report what he and his team need.

Jeran may be invited to either the March or April meeting. Darin mentioned that the last time they picked "low hanging fruit". He would like to see who won grants last year and what they asked for.

A recurring discussion was the Committee would really like to help Matt and his team in any way possible.

Jim

Judith asked Matt about Jim Hendrickson. Matt reported that sadly, Jim passed away last month and that the family held a small service. (Darin looked up the obituary at Jenkins-Soffe and reported the date was December 3rd.) Jan said that "we all adored him" and Judith said she wished she could have attended the service and that COVID is extra hard because we can't mourn together.

With no more business to come before the Committee, Matt adjourned the meeting at 2:43 pm.

The next meeting will be February 2nd at 2:30 pm via zoom.