

MURRAY CITY POWER
Shade Tree & Beautification Commission
Murray City, Utah
April 3, 2023

Minutes of the Murray City Power Shade Tree & Beautification Commission meeting held on April 3, 2023, at Murray City Power located at 153 West 4800 South, Murray, Utah.

Shade Tree & Beautification Commission

Darin Bird
Jan Evans-excused
Geneal Nelson-excused
Judith Payne
Cathy Singer, Kennecott Nature Center Director (guest)

Department Staff

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

There were not enough members to make a quorum. No official business was held; however, plans for Murray City's Arbor Day were discussed. Discussion lasted from 8:12 am to 8:55 am.

Arbor Day

Darin said that he would reach out to Jamie Barnes, Director/State Forester to invite her to attend Murray City's Arbor Day celebration on Friday, May 5th. (He called later that day to say that she would be in attendance.) He will also reach out to Jeran Farley, Urban Forestry Coordinator, to see if he can attend.

Bruce confirmed that the amphitheater and pavilion are scheduled.

Darin said that he would emcee.

Judith and Geneal will help with the students and read the names of the poster contest winners.

Jan will announce the honorary tree recipient.

The Commission will wear their green shirts.

Matt reported that all the posters have been judged and winners would be notified within the week. He also reported that we would be having Jimmy John's sandwiches again this year.

It was decided that Cathy Singer will find children to read poems at the celebration and she will contact a teacher to see if there is a student who will lead the pledge of allegiance. She will let the Commission know when she gets the names so that the names can be on the program.

Matt asked about how many educational sessions would be needed this year. It was decided that 10 would be enough.

- Parkside will have 3 classes

- Horizon will have 4 classes

- Viewmont will have 2 classes

Cathy Singer has already scheduled the busses so the students may attend the celebration. Cathy will also send Barbara the count of students that are expected to attend. (She did later that day and estimates that 220 students will be attending.)

There are currently 9 confirmed educational sessions. Barbara is waiting on hearing from Sportsman's to see if they can attend again this year. Darin asked if she has contacted DWR to see if they can come. Barbara had not. She was waiting to hear from her contact at Sportsman's. (Later that day Barbara sent an email to DWR and has not had any response.)

The Commission asked Barbara to send out a list of confirmed educational session and the program for them to look over. They asked her to include Cathy as well.

Matt Erkelens will get a map prepared with the educational sessions and distribute it to the Commission.

Darin confirmed that we have received a Tree City USA flag. He also suggested that we could give a flag to an elementary school...perhaps to the school of the Citywide Grand Prize winner.

It was decided that Barbara invite the principal and that the mayor present the flag to the principal.

As of 4/3, Barbara invited the principal and has not yet heard from her to see if she can attend.

Barbara will contact the mayor and ask that he:

- Say a few words

- Congratulate the students (maybe give high 5's)

- Encourage people to visit the park

- Present the principal with the flag for the school to display at their school

Darin volunteered to be available to assist the mayor as need at the celebration.

Honorary Tree Planting

Matt asked if anyone had a person to nominate for the honorary tree person.

Bruce suggested 2 names: Karen Crook who has been volunteering and caring for the rose garden near State Street for 15-20 years. He also suggested Colin Fishes.

Cathy and Judith talked about all the volunteers who are stewards of the Jordan River trail in Murray.

It was decided that Karen Crook be chosen as the 2023 nominee. Bruce will get Barbara Karen's address and write something about Karen to be read at the celebration. (Bruce did give that address on 4/5)

It was also discussed that the names of those who care for the trail be considered for next year and maybe even honored as a group. (Chad, Jeff, Phil, Bill, Rhett, and others)

In case of inclement weather, the celebration won't move to the amphitheater but stay at pavilion #5. Matt will bring a speaker if needed.

Beautification Award/Water Wise Park Strip

The idea of having a new category for xeriscape park strips as a part of the Jim and Jean Hendrickson Beautification awards had been talked about previously.

Matt asked about what the name of that would be and if the Commission wanted to add that category for 2023. Also, if so, what would be some of the criterion.

After some discussion it was decided that the following category be added for 2023:

*Waterwise Living Park Strip

The criterion would be that it needed to have plants as a part of the park strip and that the inclusion of trees would be preferable.

Unofficial minutes recorded and transcribed by Barbara Ishino. **The next event of the Shade Tree and Beautification Commission will be the Arbor Day Celebration to be held on Friday, May 5th.**

The next official meeting will be on Monday, June 5th at 8:00 am at the Power Department office (153 W 4800 S) Murray, Utah.