

**Garden City Parks & Tree Board  
Minutes of Meeting**

**Date: March 17, 2015**

- I. Call to Order:** David Miller called the meeting to order at approximately 5:32 pm.
- II. Members present:** David Coltrain, Pat Geier, David Miller, Mike Ramsey, Ed Sattler and Larry Scheuchzer. Also in attendance were John Klempa – District Forester, Andy Liebelt - Liaison and Darrel Combs – guest.
- III. Members absent:** John Brennaman
- IV. Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made by David Coltrain and seconded by Pat Geier to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
- V. Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Pat Geier and seconded by David Coltrain to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.
- VI. Guest comments:** At 5:40pm Darrel Combs – former owner of Coyote’s Shooting Supply – addressed the board. Appropriate introductions were made at that time. Mr. Combs enjoys gardening, trees and wildlife. He has a large English walnut tree + pecan trees but he has no nuts due to the squirrels. Mr. Combs has concerns about squirrel control, the ordinances limiting squirrel control, and property damage from the squirrels. He would like a permit system for licensed squirrel control with air guns.
- VI. Fund Report:**
  - A. General Account - \$26,499.65 – as per end of year budget.
  - B. Tree Account - \$35,162.26
    1. 2014 Loans and rebates \$30,000.00 less:
  - C. Annual Street Tree Pruning: \$10,000.00
- VII. Staff Report:**
  - A. Report on current department issues.
    1. Terri Gonzales was promoted to Administrative Assistant. Among other duties, she tracks tree loans and can process tree loans, as well. Alan explained the streamlined loan application and approval process.
    2. Organizational changes are now on the City Manager’s desk. The Parks department is trying to develop a tiered system of knowledgeable staff with the department.
    3. Santa Fe Park – Some trees have been moved from the previous location across the street. This was done using the Park’s department tree spade, + Eugene Saloga was hired to move (6) trees at a cost of \$444.00. New playground equipment has been received.

4. Central Control Irrigation – Fred Jones, Water Resource Manager, and Andy Liebelt, Superintendent of Public Grounds, attended a seminar in Colorado Springs that focused on irrigation, xeriscape and native plants.
5. Andy Liebelt, Superintendent of Public Grounds, attended CPSI Playground Safety Inspector School in Shawnee; this will help him to internally audit our parks playground equipment. No federal laws – liability issues
6. A new mower has been approved by the City Commission. Slid in under new emission standard (3,000 hr. maintenance requirements). Next mower will need to meet requirements and will have maintenance issues.
7. State Champion Tree signage prints were passed around for four trees in Finnup Park.
8. Irrigation for Finnup & Lion Parks – redo. Fourth & pool was done by Western Irrigation to accommodate Sunflower Trail extension. Ready for trail with crossings, etc.
9. Gene Greer cleaned up the willow grove south of the zoo. Will revamp irrigation to be automated and separate from zoo controls.
10. Lion Park – Want some grasses to mask utility equipment.
11. KANZ building – Steps, windows, paint, carpet, heat & A/C. Getting prices. To be financed with the city from the general fund.
12. Firewood issue – Local nursery brought in walnut wood from Missouri. Will need to dispose.

**VIII. Committee reports:**

**IX. Unfinished Business:**

1. Arbor Day – Passed around posters of three local winners. Local winner won district. Poster submitted to state. Eric Ivey of ITC is buying a tree at a cost of \$200.00 to plant at winner’s school. Discussed returning posters with a pencil.
2. City arborist breakfast – Tabled.
3. “A” street garden west of Tally Trail on south side of drainage ditch #1 (Formerly maintained by Fred Palmblade)

**X. New Business:**

**XI. Announcements:**

- A. KSU Extension Agent, Kathy Lavis, will be presenting Xeriscape/Landscape Irrigation training at the KSU Research Center on March 20, 2015 at 8:30-am.
- B. Have a good prospect for Park Worker I

**XII. Schedule next meeting** – The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 5:45 p.m.

**XIII. Adjournment** – Motion was made by Pat Geier and seconded by Mike Ramsey. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:33 p.m.

**NOTES:** Speech by Alan Geier