

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BAYFIELD TREE BOARD**  
HELD AT BIGWATER CAFÉ ON *February 23, 2015 at 9 AM*

- ***In Attendance:***
  - Howard Paap, Jake Geisler, Gene Brevold, Grandin Harris, Art Ode.
  - The agenda and minutes of the last meeting were approved as discussed.
- ***Old Business:***
  - Homeowners will again be asked whether they wish to have a city tree, either shade tree or ornamental tree, in the boulevard between sidewalk and curb. Typically we get a dozen requests.
  - Ode proposed that the dead or damaged Fort McNair Hybrid Buckeye's along 6<sup>th</sup> St. be replaced. There are about 6 trees that need replacing as they are quite a welcoming site to the city when in bloom. All present agreed.
- ***New Business:***
  - Ode presented a communication from the Urban Forestry Council regarding cuts to the DNR Urban Forestry Grant Program, which will essentially eliminate the present grant program for inventorying and planting trees with a program to replace trees in urban areas that have been damaged by disease, infestation or catastrophic storm events.

The proposed bill eliminates DNR's authority to award discretionary urban forestry grants. It also puts limitations on purposes for which the DNR may allocate cost-sharing urban forestry grants.

The Tree Board authorizes Ode to state at the upcoming budget meeting that the past program has been the foundation of the Bayfield urban forest activities, and the elimination of which will put our present efforts in great jeopardy.

Some other possible aspects of proposed DNR budget cuts were also discussed.
  
- ***Next meeting:*** March 23, 2015, 9:00 AM at City Hall.

Submitted  
Art Ode