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MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD

A Subcommittee of the PARC (Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission)

The Santa Fe County Extension Office 3229 Rodeo Road

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Review & Approval of the Minutes for February 22, 2017
5. Program
 - a. "Resiliency in the Arid Urban Forest" by Athena Beshur
6. Old Business
 - A. Tree Inventory Project
 - B. Tree Pest Hotline
 - C. Arbor Day Project
 - D. Adoption of Municipal Tree Board Vision Statement
7. New Business
 - A. Community Day
 - B. New Board Member
8. Comments from the Board
9. Public Comment
10. Date and Time of next meeting- Wednesday, April 26, 2017 10:00 am
11. Adjourn

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**SUMMARY OF ACTION
MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
SANTA FE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
3229 RODEO ROAD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017, 10:00 AM**

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**MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
SANTA FE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
3229 RODEO ROAD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017, 10:00 AM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Municipal Tree Board was called to order by Chair Katherine O'Brien at 10:00 am, on Wednesday, March 22, 2017, at the Santa Fe County Extension Office, 3229 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Katherine O'Brien, Chair
Athena Beshur
Tracy Neal
Tom Dominguez
(Vacancy)

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Victor Lucero, Parks Department
Mary Schruben
Patricia Cardona
Madeline Pryor
Steve Vollstedt
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
FEBRUARY 22, 2017**

Chair O'Brien said on page 2 it should say Chair O'Brien.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to approve the minutes as amended.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. PROGRAM

**A. "RESILIENCY IN THE ARID URBAN FOREST"
ATHENA BESHUR**

A presentation entitled "Resiliency In The Arid Urban Forest" was given by Ms. Athena Beshur. The link to her full report is as follows:

www.sowsfe.com/news.Santa-Fe-Tree-Inventory-Report.shtml

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. TREE INVENTORY PROJECT

Ms. Beshur said we are going to start with Harvey Cornell Park/Rose Garden, on April 22nd. We will work on that park over 2 days and completely finish it. The 22nd of April is also Earth Day.

Mr. Neal said we talked about this park last year and he still has the overlay from the City of the trees so you can use it to number them when you do the inventory.

Ms. Beshur said Mary is awesome as always in getting all those maps. Instead of having each person sign an individuals sheet this year we will have an indemnification sheet that everyone will sign. It will also be a record for volunteer hours.

Ms. Schruben said we need a complete list of who signed up for what dates.

Chair O'Brien said we won't talk about the whole picture on the inventories for this year so that we can get through the agenda. We have some people who have to leave early.

B. TREE PEST HOTLINE

Chair O'Brien said we had discussion on this item at our last meeting.

Mr. Lucero passed out a handout which is incorporated herewith into these minutes as Exhibit "1". On the City of Santa Fe Parks website there is an integrated

Pest Management link. If you click there you will see some information. This handout is under the section that says The Loop. He posted it recently. It is about the Pinon Needle Scale in Santa Fe. This is the sort of thing you will be able to glean from and comment on. It included local images and basic information on the biology of the pest and management strategies. This is the best way for him to disseminate information. He is working on making it more user friendly.

Chair O'Brien said the other part of what we wanted is management.

Mr. Lucero said there are management strategies included.

Mr. Neal asked are you going to make notes about when a particular pest was seen in Santa Fe and where.

Mr. Lucero said yes. It is his intent is to meet with the webmaster to put information on all of the pests on the site. As a result of our infestation of Pinon Needle Scale he will be working on an IPS trap to monitor the bark beetle. The beetle keys in on a dark structure. He will monitor them weekly. We are working in conjunction with a neighborhood association as well. This dovetails with the Pinon Needle Scale information on the web. We have no data on the IPS beetle in Santa Fe. We are trying to generate some data on them over time. He will also put up information on Slash Data.

Ms. Schruben said our ward has a bunch of very mature but healthy Pinions. That would be a great place to stick one of those traps. They won't get disturbed.

Chair O'Brien said that is great Victor.

Ms. Beshur said you may want to contact Andy Graves who did his dissertation on IPS.

Mr. Lucero said he is speaking with him already.

Mr. Neal said the more information you can gather and make available to the public about pest activities in the City the better. It is most useful. How will this be advertised.

Mr. Lucero said he will post it on website and share it with Tom for his newsletter. He can put a link on the newsletter.

Chair O'Brien asked could we get it in the Master Gardeners newsletter.

Mr. Dominguez said he will do that.

Chair O'Brien said lets call the major landscaping companies and let them know

about it.

Mr. Lucero said he will send everyone a link that you can share.

Chair O'Brien said those of us in landscaping industry can send it out.

C. ARBOR DAY PROJECT

Chair O'Brien asked are there any updates.

Mr. Lucero said he was instructed to let you know that Andrew Garcia, City Horticulturist, has recently planted 5 trees in the parks. Mr. Thompson will get some information out with respect to a formalized event.

Ms. Beshur said we discussed at last meeting about adding a tree to the Rose Garden as part of Arbor Day. She talked to Cindy Hoffman with the Rose Society. She said we don't need to wait until June 17th to plant it. We can plant it any time.

Chair O'Brien said we will email that out to the City.

Ms. Beshur said she said one tree died and was taken out.

Chair O'Brien said actually 2 were taken out. She and Tracy have talked about what kind of tree could go there.

Mr. Neal said he would like to see a Zocola Village Green.

D. ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD VISION STATEMENT

Chair O'Brien said Tracy came up with a Vision Statement at our last meeting. It is in the minutes from the last meeting. We need to remember that a vision statement is different from mission statement.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Dominguez, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to adopt the Vision Statement.

Ms. Beshur asked should a vision statement state what we already want to see in the present tense.

Chair O'Brien said assist is in present tense. Our emphasis is the urban forest.

Mr. Dominguez said he likes what this says. This Board gives advice.

Ms. Cardona said she thinks it should include how do you do it. Provide

information and data so that it gives you a sense of focus of where your value is. It can be modified later on.

Ms. Beshur said that is in our Mission Statement.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMMUNITY DAY

Chair O'Brien handed out a flyer on Community Day. The City is hosting this event on May 13th at the Santa Fe Plaza. This is something for us to attend and be aware of and encourage people we know to attend. This event is good for the City.

Chair O'Brien said the City is also hosting an Easter Egg hunt on April 15th.

Mr. Neal said we have talked earlier about the Parks Department Adopt-A-Park program. He has not seen it advertised so far. It seems like at Community Day, Parks should have a table and have a handout for that program.

Chair O'Brien said she is hoping the Master Gardeners Association and the Rose Society will be adopting Cornell Park.

Ms. Beshur said one of the things that people should know is that it is not about picking up poop. It is eyes on the park.

Ms. Cardona said Frenchy's Park has been adopted by a Rotary Club.

The details of what the Adopt-A-Park program entails was discussed.

Mr. Neal said the Adopt-A-Park program should include a sense of monitoring the parks and reporting back to the Parks Department.

Ms. Cardona asked what does monitoring parks involve.

Mr. Neal said some cities have programs where if people see dying trees for instance, there is a line to call the Parks Department to let them know.

Ms. Cardona said it would be nice to have a check list for people to know what to look for.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Mr. Dominguez, to

recommend to the PARC that they recommend to the City adding a check list for monitoring the parks and a phone number to report issues to the Adopt-A-Park materials.

Mr. Dominguez said can we come up with that list to ease the burden on the Parks Department.

Chair O'Brien asked Tracy and Athena to work on a check list with Victor's input. That check list will be presented to PARC along with the recommendation at their next meeting.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. NEW BOARD MEMBER

Chair O'Brien said we are in need of one more Board member for this Board. Athena, you contacted Tony Delfino.

Ms. Beshur said yes and he said he was interested. He is a retired Cabinet Secretary of Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources and a former State Forester. Has anyone else found anyone with an interest. Most Tree Boards have a diversity of expertise.

Mr. Dominguez said every year we have 2 classes of 30 people each for Master Gardner interns. When you do your presentation Madam Chair, it would be good to mention there is space on the Board and your involvement with the Tree Board. He is looking as well.

Ms. Cardona asked are there any special areas of expertise that would be useful for the Board.

Ms. Beshur said grant writing and enthusiasm.

Mr. Dominguez said an open mind not their own agenda.

Chair O'Brien said and they need to be able to attend the monthly meetings and use email.

8. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Dominguez said he has been talking to Victor about putting together a short Tree Workshop or Tree Health Workshop. We are still brainstorming. He has Dr. Sutton coming and Dr. Ashley Bennet, an IPM specialist. Maybe a half day workshop on

what we are seeing. He is getting a lot of phone calls about pests. We are in the planning stage now. We will publicize the Tree Board as a sponsor. It will be in a couple of weeks from now in April, towards the end of week. Please send him your input on this. It will be a County Extension event with sponsorships of the City Parks and MTB.

Chair O'Brien said she will be out of town until April 8th. It will be a challenge to get landscapers to come because they are so busy at this time of year. She just wanted to warn him.

Mr. Dominguez said he already knows there is interest in coming.

Ms. Cardona said make sure she knows about the workshops.

Ms. Beshur said it is a good thing for her employees to come to.

Mr. Neal said tell Master Gardeners about it.

Mr. Dominguez said he will.

Mr. Neal asked are you going to cover orchard pests.

Mr. Dominguez said yes.

Chair O'Brien said excellent Tom.

Ms. Beshur said she wants to check on how would the Board would like to proceed with the tree identifier person for each inventory. If you could look at the list and tell her which Board member can be at each event that would be helpful.

Chair O'Brien said when we get firm dates and parks we can do that. Send out the information to us and we can sign up for it.

Ms. Beshur said we have firm dates and parks. The list was given out at our last meeting. The only change is that May 6th has been removed from the list. Before our next meeting we have April 22nd from 10:00 am to noon and April 26th at 5:30 pm. Both are for the Rose Park/Cornell Park.

Mr. Neal said he can do the 26th.

Chair O'Brien said she can do the 22nd.

Ms. Beshur said thank you. We will just go month to month of scheduling the tree identifier.

Chair O'Brien said she attended PARC last night. The City is developing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. At this point she does not feel the Tree Board needs to be involved. They are doing an inventory first of what is here. Then they will do a site analysis. We would like to be involved at that point.

Ms. Cardona said it is not only vegetation but also infrastructure. Physically impaired access issues and terracing. Think creatively about that and better use of the land.

Ms. Cardona said the Tree Board is very important on shading issues. That is a big component. That and looking at how you interface with the public.

Chair O'Brien said she did tune in to the Penn State Community Forestry and Green Infrastructure Webinar. They did a monitoring, not a tree inventory, with volunteers. There were some things we can apply to our tree inventories. In training volunteers, they brought photos of leaves that could be confused and also brought actual leaves from the park that they are monitoring for them to see. Also when they measure the DVH of multi trunk trees they said to put at what height the branching occurs. We should add that to our inventories.

Mr. Neal said thank you Patricia for coming.

Chair O'Brien said it was good to have you here.

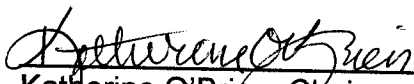
9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

10. NEXT MEETING APRIL 26, 2017

11. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.


Katherine O'Brien, Chair


Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

Pinyon Needle Scale *Matsucoccus acalyptus*

Pinyon needle scale, *Matsucoccus acalyptus*, is a host specific sap feeding pest of pinon trees. The effects of their feeding damage to pinon trees can be seen in many areas in and around Santa Fe. Black specks on yellowing or brown needles are evidence that trees have been infested with pinyon needle scale (PNS).

The degree of damage by PNS infestation ranges from no damage to severely damaged host trees. Many trees that I have observed have suffered from multiple years of uncontrolled infestation. Trees that have experienced the worst of PNS infestations are reduced to a specimen with a thin, spindly canopy of a few live needles. The effects of PNS in Santa Fe have rendered many pinon trees susceptible to other pests.

Some trees that have received supplemental irrigation or are located in areas that benefit from runoff water are in great shape. Maintaining tree health, including supplemental irrigation is the first step in managing trees for PNS.

Although the literature suggests that there are beneficial arthropods that feed on PNS, achieving control by naturally occurring predators and parasites has not been observed.

Adult PNS females can be seen crawling on trees and the small, dark colored winged males flying around the tree in search of females. A 5-10x hand lens is useful in observing this insect. If you having a difficult time finding this stage of PNS, place a 24"x 24" piece of white fabric placed below a tree branch and give the branch a shake or two. You should see the green colored female scale with ease.

EXHIBIT 1



Figure 1. Pinyon needle scale, *Matsucoccus acalyptus*, damage. Pinyon needle scale (PNS) is a native sap sucking insect pest of pinon trees. PNS infest and kill needles older than one year, which significantly reduces the trees ability to produce carbohydrates for its survival. Along with dead needles, dark bean-shaped specks on needles also indicate the presence of PNS. Successive years of uncontrolled infestation may kill trees or predispose trees to other pests. Dead needles do not regenerate and eventually fall off the tree. Supplemental irrigation in times of drought is vital to maintain tree health.



Figure 2. Adult PNS females (~2.5mm) on a pinon tree branch.

PNS females are about 2.5mm in length; light green in color and wingless. Upon emerging from their bean shaped capsule in late winter through early spring, females are mated by small dark colored winged males. Adult females crawl from needles to branches, trunk, nearby trees or other areas in search of protected sites to lay eggs. As of this writing, most adults have emerged from the protective covering.

Female PNS are vulnerable to control measures including physical removal by a high pressure stream of water and subsequently gathered and disposed of in a plastic trash bag. Inspect the tree for crawling females and repeat often. This method may be impractical with more than just a few trees.

The author has not observed naturally occurring predators, parasites or pathogens to provide control of PNS populations.

Properly timed applications of horticultural oils directed to this life stage of PNS kill the insect by plugging their breathing pores (spiracles). There is no residual control of horticultural oil insecticides and multiple applications may be required to control infestations. Horticultural oils and other organic oils may cause phytotoxicity especially to new growth or when applied when day time temperatures are high.

Read and follow product label instructions. It is a violation of Federal law to use any pesticide product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.



Figure3. Webbing produced by female PNS covers and protects yellow colored eggs. Three to four weeks after being laid, eggs develop a red spot indicating the eggs will hatch in about 7-10 days. The hatched "crawlers" move to last years' needles, insert their mouthpart and quickly produce a protective covering. As with females, eggs and newly hatched crawlers are most vulnerable to control efforts. Egg masses can be physically removed from the tree, gathered and destroyed. Monitoring egg hatch to identify the crawler stage is critical for effective physical control or chemical control efforts with horticultural oil insecticides or other classes of insecticides.