



Zebulon Parks & Recreation Department
Tree Board
October 18th, 2021

The Town of Zebulon Tree Board will hold a meeting on Monday, October 18th, 2021 immediately following the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting begins at 6:00 PM. Both meetings will be held at the Zebulon Town Hall, 1003 N. Arendell Avenue.

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Public Comment: Public comments are limited to 3 minutes. Anyone wishing to speak must sign up by 5:50 PM. Public comment may be limited to 15 minutes.
4. Consent
 - a. Adoption of Minutes
 - i. October 19th, 2020
5. New Business
 - a. Tree City USA Projects
 - b. Future Meeting Schedule
6. Open Discussion
7. Staff Update
8. Adjournment



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Topic: Tree City USA Project

From: Parks & Recreation Staff
Prepared by: Sheila Long, Parks & Recreation Director
Presented by: Sheila Long, Parks & Recreation Director

Background

In order for the Town to maintain its “Tree City USA” recognition, the town must meet 4 standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters. The 4 standards include: a tree board, a tree care ordinance, a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day Observance & Proclamation.

These standards were established to ensure that every qualifying community would have a viable tree management plan and program. The town has proudly earned the Tree City USA distinction 16 years in a row, dating back to 2005 and has also received the Tree City USA Growth Award in 2008.

Staff has prepared a proposal for the annual Tree City USA project. We wish to plant 4 Crepe Myrtles at Zebulon Community Park for the purpose of our observation and planting program. Crepe Myrtles are consisted with the tree inventory at other parks offering consistency. Crepe Myrtles are flowering trees that are bird and bee friendly. Over the next year we will discuss other tree species for consideration for future projects.

To help expand this program, staff proposes changing the format of the program to be more family and community focused. We are proposing something that we can expand in future years. It is our intent to move the observation event to a Saturday morning and offer a free educational and interactive experience. Instructor, Gina Bryant, will guide participants in planting the trees and conduct an educational program in conjunction with the tree planting. Participants will plant their own tree seedling to take home. The program will focus on the importance of planting trees and the basic care of seedlings before and after planting. This program will kick off a series of quarterly environmental education programs. The event is proposed to take place on Saturday, November 13th at 10 AM.

Discussion

The discussion before the board is whether to approve the recommended 2021 Tree City USA Arbor Planting and Observation program as presented for Zebulon Community Park.

Sample Motion:

“I make a motion to approve the recommended 2021 Tree City USA Arbor Planting and Observation program as presented for Zebulon Community Park.



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Topic: Future Meeting Schedule

From: Parks & Recreation Staff
Prepared by: Sheila Long, Parks & Recreation Director
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Background

The Tree Board has traditionally not met on a regularly basis. Staff is working to provide training quarterly and will seek opportunities to bring business before the tree board for consideration. We propose assembling this tree board once per quarter and on an as needed basis. If no training or business are slated for the proposed dates, they may be cancelled.

The following dates are proposed for 2022:

- February 21st
- May 16th
- August 22nd
- October 24th

Adopting this schedule allows for better staff, board, and community planning.

Discussion

The board will discuss and consider the proposed 2022 Tree Board Schedule.

Sample Motion:

“I make a motion to adopt the 2022 Tree Board Schedule as proposed.”