

**Maple Grove Arbor Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2023  
Mayor's Conference Room  
7 p.m.**

<b>Call to Order</b>	The regular meeting of the Arbor Committee was called to order by Chair Parenteau at 7 p.m.
<b>Members Present</b>	Chair Mary Parenteau, Sarah Picket, Cody Lensing, Don Varney, Marilyn Arnlund, Darleen Lindgren and Bob Henke
<b>Members Absent</b>	Emma Molls, Frank Kampel, Rachael Lamsal, and Apeckchya Karki
<b>Also Present</b>	Rachelle Johnson, Council Liaison Jesse Corrow, Staff Liaison
<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	Motion Arnlund, second Varney to approve the agenda for April 13, 2023. Vote all ayes. Motion passed.
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	A typo was noted by Henke. Motion Varney, second Henke to approve the minutes from March 9, 2023. Vote all ayes. Motion passed.
<b><u>Old Business</u></b>	
<b>Hy-Vee North Funds</b>	Corrow walked through the aerial images provided in the agenda. Public Works will assist with exposing the soil for a visual inspection and with preparing the holes for tree plantings. Lindgren and Arnlund will assist in coming up with a landscape plan.
<b>Arbor Day Event</b>	The Arbor Committee reviewed the “to do” list and each member discussed the progress that has been made to date. The list will continue to be updated leading up to the event. Lensing contacted CCX Media who will be interviewing him about the event at the Community Center. The 2023 Arbor Day event will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Maple Grove Community Center.
<b>Buckthorn Eradication Group</b>	Chair Parenteau provided information on the group’s last meeting. The group discussed a potential grant to assist in eliminating buckthorn. Parenteau mentioned that the Parks Department suggested the Buckthorn Eradication Group go through the Arbor Committee to write the grant. Motion

Arnlund, second Picket to partner with the Parks Department to write a grant for buckthorn eradication.

Parenteau invited the committee to a clean-up event with the Buckthorn Eradication Group and Rotary Club at the Town Green on April 22, 2021, and at the Arboretum on April 25, 2021.

### **City Forester**

Parenteau discussed a presentation that was made to city staff and Council Member Hanson last year regarding the hiring of a city forester. The presentation was well received at the time but the Arbor Committee was told the position would not be added that year. Parenteau wants to pursue adding the position again this year and reviewed the information provided on a city forester.

The Committee discussed the benefits of a city forester and would like to see forest management responsibilities consolidated into one position. A motion was made by Parenteau, second by Picket that the City Council consider a city forester position in next year's budget. Vote all ayes. Motion passed.

### **Parking Lot Subcommittee**

Picket discussed the progress the subcommittee has been making and they will soon have ordinance recommendations for the committee to review.

### **Landscape Plan Review**

Picket referenced a comment made by city staff at the last Planning Commission meeting that the Arbor Committee is no longer going to review landscape plans unless the development is in a T-zone. Corrow and Parenteau were not aware of those plans.

The committee discussed the shortfalls of the current landscape plan review process and would like to see it brought back as part of future Arbor Committee meetings. Picket motion, second Arnlund that future landscape plans are reviewed during Arbor Committee meetings. Vote all ayes. Motion passed.

### **New Business**

#### **EAB Tree Replacement Program**

Corrow explained the details of a proposed companion program to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Plan that will provide a tree voucher to residents who have lost a boulevard tree in recent years. The Arbor Committee was supportive of the proposal and Lensing made a motion,

second by Arnlund, to recommend the City Council authorize a tree replacement program to for residents that have had a boulevard tree removed as part of the EAB management plan. Vote all ayes. Motion passed.

**Area Reports**

The committee scheduled a street clean-up of Vicksburg Lane for May 17, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Parenteau asked that staff contact the MNDOT about picking up litter along the major highways and freeways.

**Adjournment**

Motion Arnlund, second Varney to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m. Vote all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jesse Corrow, City Planner  
City of Maple Grove Arbor Committee