

Meeting with Joran Viers, City Forester

February 8, 2019

Attended by Judi Lavin, Doug Romig, Joyce Kolberg

Notes by Judi Lavin

The overgrown shrubs next to playground & growth under trees along Morningside: Crews sometime pull these shrubs but do not eliminate entirely. We have put a request in for complete elimination.

Trimming of trees: Removal of deadwood in trees started last year but was halted due to concerns expressed about the hawks.

“Live” wood is heavier than dead and thus more dangerous- it is this that would be preferable to trim first. Approach would be to trim large overhanging branches while leaving the inside leaves branches untouched.

Joran also spoke about the trees that were struck by lightning. These would be the first to be cut down. Not likely to happen until 2020.

Currently only 6 people in the current park staff to tend to all of the trees in city parks. No budget to bring in more folks. 2020 is a possibility to begin addressing trimming of trees.

Another possibility would be to have the NA and the community at large to speak to our city councilor. She may have funds to direct towards our need if we contact her as a group, engage her and express our concerns and needs.

I made a note of 300K for contractors??. Can not recall exactly what this was for but maybe money she has for trees. Doug/Joyce can you add input?

Regarding Tree Removal/Replantation: Replant will take place with input from us. A selection of suitable trees was discussed in the past. Joyce I think you have this list.

Will plant trees that are ~2” in diameter, 15 feet tall. 5-7 year old. At full maturity the trees will be about 80 % as big the trees currently along the park.

The trees will likely be planted inside the natural path made from walkers on the grass. The sprinkler and irrigation system will drive where trees can and cannot be planted.

We spoke about addressing the dirt under the trees where grass does not grow. Joyce mentioned crusher fines-Joran does not like this as it absorbs a lot of heat and this is radiated up to the trees. I think Robert spoke to folks about redirecting the sprinklers to hit these areas.

If we have some social event in the summer Joran would be happy to attend and talk about the replantation plans at that time.