

Natural Resource Advisory Group

1.25.2024 Minutes

Present: Betsy Knowles, Marge Loch-Wouters, Jason Ludwigson, Ruth Nissen, Randy Urich, Bill Waller

- I. Minutes from 8/24/2023, 10/4/2023 and 11/7/2023 meetings approved.
- II. Tree ordinance - Discussed additional changes with regard to pruning boulevard trees, recommended species, and safety. Jason will update and send the next version before the February meeting.
- III. Review of invasive species removal: Siberian Elm in highway median, Buckthorn on Stoney Point and a triangle on the ridge below Stoney Point; Round Leaf Bittersweet on ridge below Stoney point and in Old Hickory. Help Grant funds cover a portion of Buckthorn removal costs.
- IV. ReLeaf Grant (MN DNR) - Grant awarded for \$38,000 to plant trees over the next three years. This will purchase approximately 325 trees, depending on type of stock, as well as tree guards and water bags.
- V. Review of La Crescent Park Habitat Plan prepared by Val Green. Discussed plan and how it might be shared with Parks Commission or public.
- VI. February 24th - Dry Bluff Prairie Work Day Eagles Bluff Park. Contact Jason if available.
- VII. Other Items
 - A. Signage for Stoney point is planned for the spring
 - B. Pine Creek Stream restoration - Conservation Partners Legacy grant received for restoration of 3,000 linear feet of Pine Creek by the Golf Course. Timeline is not yet set but work will probably begin in 2025 with completion in 2026
 - C. Root River Current (online magazine) will include the article about prairie plantings in LaCrescent.

Next Meeting: February 15, 2024

Respectfully submitted, Betsy Knowles