

Tree Board Meeting

May 10, 9:30

City Hall

Attending: LuAnne Engh, Dale Ahrens, Aaron Christensen, Walter Widdis, Matt Wheeler, Kurt Markegard, Phyllis Bromgard

Expense/Income: See Attached – looks like we might have a balance of \$1303 for next year.

Overview of Arbor Day:

- Everyone liked the afternoon schedule better
- SOW team was super but Dale feels a minimum of 8 people is needed
- Double wash station would help speed up the line. Kids loved the food! Not much left over – Dale managed the shopping well.
- Due to packing the chips Dale had \$143 left from the grant that will be in the school account for next year.
- The hospitality sandwich helped to feed city staff and volunteers who had been there all morning and afternoon. LuAnne will send the receipt to the school for reimbursement out of the Walmart grant money.
- Need better map for parking and someone to direct that has authority
- Walmart volunteers didn't show up – Dale gave us the request letter (attached). It may be that someone needs to call the contact person. We'll ask again next year.
- Plaques for the trees can be installed next year. Pacific Recycling is still working on them.
- We need to promote the event on Facebook either on the Laurel Community watch page or the city website. Outlook does a nice job but it should get more attention. Our photos should be uploaded and a story to explain future plans. LuAnne has photos and will try to get this done.
- On the t-shirts, SOW should have been included because their donation of time and the trailer was a huge amount. We need to be more clear about where our donors are listed. Everyone is on the banner which is on the pool fence.
- LuAnne drafted a Thank you to all donors for the Outlook – Walter will see its printed

New Business:

- Dead trees are an issue through out town. The tree board can send a letter to the homeowner about their responsibility to take down dead trees due to the danger of them falling on property. Karen our code enforcer will be at the next meeting to discuss what we should be doing according to the city codes.
- Clean up in Lions park must be approved by a city employee. The Lions want to take out dead and dying trees around the pond but those must be targeted by a professional. Aaron will help identify the trees. Anyone can weed out the ditches of volunteer trees that are going to crowd the tree line.

Next Meeting: June 21st – 9:30 Invite Karen Code Enforcer to the meeting

Donations - this is not official – still waiting for the Treasurer's official report

Money – NOT INCLUDING WALMART - \$4210

TREES 2,221

SHIRTS 464

BANDS 132

HOSPITALITY 100

Balance \$1303

Thank you - Outlook article

The Laurel Tree Board would like to thank all the supporters and volunteers that made our 2018 Arbor Day Celebration at Lions Park and South Pond a huge success. The 200 students and teachers from the Laurel 4th grade, Laurel Home School, New Life Church School of Light, and First Baptist Academy appreciated the opportunity to help improve the pond with 9 new trees. They learned from the following area educators:

Bright N Beautiful
Riverstone Health
Yellowstone Weed District
Yellowstone Master Gardeners
Montana Nursery & Landscape Association
Northwest Energy
Fish, Wildlife and Parks
USDA – Agriculture
Department of Natural Resources

The Laurel Garden Club provided the hospitality for the presenters and the S.O.W. Ministries offered the BBQ lunch. The Lions members helped with the set up and clean-up of the park and the City Staff dedicated several days to preparing the park for the tree planting. The Laurel Fire Department was on hand to show their equipment and explain fire safety. The American Legion presented the flag.

Our generous donors that supported the event are:

Laurel Lions Club	Local 316 Employee Union
First Baptist Church	Western Security Bank
DNRC	Rocky Mountain Compost
Northwest Energy	American Legion
Walmart	Meadow Green Sales
J&M Auto	Laurel PTA
State Farm – Tom Maack	Dynamic Designs
Laurel Rotary	Cotters Squatters
Yellowstone Bank	Pacific Recycling
River Ridge Landscape	Ace Hardware
Larned Tree Service	Laurel Ford
Albaugh Construction	
Tech Construction	

Thank you to all who participated in Arbor Day!

The Laurel Tree Board

Anril 17. 2018

Mr. Nick Paden, Store Manager
Laurel Wal Mart
101 Bernhardt Road
Laurel, MT 59044

Dear Nick

As a member of the City of Laurel, Tree Board, and also a trustee of the Laurel Public Schools, I want to extend our heartfelt "thank you" to you and your administrative team for the financial support Wal Mart has given to our annual Arbor Day opportunities. This is your second year that our Arbor Day committee has received a Wal Mart grant that will cover the lunch and snacks for all 4th graders from the Laurel Schools, Private Schools, and Home schools. With the presentations from county and state organizations and groups, our students are learning the importance of good tree planting and conservation. We thank you for the local support of the Laurel City of Trees designation.

Last week, I came into your store to personally thank you for the 2018 Community Grant from Wal Mart. You were in a meeting, so I was able to speak with a member of the Wal Mart administrative team, Paul. He mentioned to me that Wal Mart employees are actively involved in their local communities. He asked me if our Arbor Day event could use any of the Wal Mart volunteers. After discussing the possibility of the Wal Mart volunteers at our monthly Arbor Day meeting, the decision was a resounding "yes".

If it could be arranged to have 4 to 6 Wal Mart volunteers at our Arbor Day event, we would be grateful. Here are the details:

Arbor Day Event - City of Laurel and 4th Grade Students of Laurel

Date: Tuesday May 1, 2018

Time: 11:30 am

Place: Laurel South Pond - Lions Club Park

* students, presenters, and volunteers will be served lunch starting at 11:30am

Tree dedication, speaker presentations, honor guard at 12:00pm

County, State, other organizations small group presentations to follow ceremony

** Wal Mart volunteers needed starting at 10:30 am

- Set up of organization booths

- Stand / supervise students and teachers as students shovel a scoop of dirt at trees

- help with any "minor" event clean-up at 2:30 pm

* any volunteer that cannot stay the full time, can rotate in where necessary.

Yours truly,



Dale Ahrens, Laurel Tree Board, Laurel S.D. Trustee