



City of Waukesha
201 Delafield St. Waukesha, WI 53188
Tel: 262.542.3700
waukesha-wi.gov

Committee: Cemetery Commission	Date: 4/22/2024
Common Council Item Number: ID#	Date: 5/7/2024
Submitted By: Karen Richards	City Administrator Approval: AB
Finance Department Review: Click here to enter text.	City Attorney's Office Review: BR
Subject: Discussion/Decision regarding implementation of a Memorial Tree program at Prairie Home Cemetery.	

Details:
Trees help make Prairie Home Cemetery beautiful. In recent years, Prairie Home Cemetery has lost dozens of trees due to decay, storm damage, and Emerald Ash Borer. A Memorial Tree Program is a way to continually replenish the tree canopy and offer a thoughtful way to create lasting remembrances while contributing to the beauty of the cemetery and providing ecological benefits.

The program will be a donation-based program, with rates approved by the cemetery commission. Interested parties will make a designated donation and Prairie Home Cemetery will plant a young tree in honor of the donors' loved one(s) and install a personalized marker near the base of the tree. Prairie Home Cemetery will manage the care and maintenance of the tree. Trees will be planted in the Spring or Fall based on schedule and availability of trees. Ideally, tree donation applications are received at least six months prior to planting.

All trees will be watered for the first summer season after they have been planted. If the tree does not survive its first year in the ground, a new tree will be replanted the following season. If the replacement tree doesn't survive, a new tree purchase will be required, if desired. There will be no refunds.

The cemetery will retain sole discretion over tree location in the cemetery, tree type, and planting schedule, but will take requests into consideration. Trees will be sourced locally and will not be accepted from private collections. See attached proposal.

Options & Alternatives:
Replenish trees only as budget allows.

Financial Remarks:
Proposed Pricing: \$1,200 for new tree planting with memorial marker; \$1,000 for new tree planting without marker. Separate revenue and expense accounts will be set-up after the program is approved.

Executive Recommendation:
Recommend approval of the proposed memorial tree program at Prairie Home Cemetery.