

GRANTS PASS URBAN TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Courtyard Conference Room

Committee Members:

Dave Russell (Chair)
James Love (Vice Chair)
Dan McBerty
Bill Reinert - Absent
Michael Holzinger
Willow Burnett-DePew
Jeff Soash
Stormy Ballenger

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Jason Sharp (City Council) - Absent
Ken Garrison (City Liaison)

Guests:

I. Business – Continuing

- A. Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2016. January’s meeting had been canceled due to weather issues.**

MOTION/VOTE

Chair Russell moved, there was no second, to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2016 meeting as presented. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Committee Members Russell, Love, DePew, McBerty, Holzinger, Soash and Ballenger. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Reinert. The motion passed.

B. Event Calendar Review

- They discussed the spring Tree Walk. No date has been officially set but soft committed to April 23 or April 30. Arbor Day is April 3.

C. Updates

- Dan updated the group about the Council’s Strategic Planning session. The Tree Canopy Program made it to number 12 on their list. He pushed the program as hard as he could and got some feedback from the Mayor about getting trees for some of the older developments. They have been pushing for a year and a half on this issue.
- Ken Garrison talked about Arbor Day. Jeff Nelson would like to do Fruitdale or Eckstein. Both are adjacent to schools (Riverside and Fruitdale Elementary) which may help get more kids involved. Fruitdale will get a Sherman Oak and Eckstein will get an Autumn Blaze Maple.

D. Significant Tree and Landscape Award Nominations

- Ken Garrison reminded the committee that they need to make their nominations soon. They like the idea of the Japanese Maples at Evergreen Federal Bank. They also suggested the Three Rivers Outpatient Center for the Landscaping Nomination. They will also take a look at the landscaping at the Siskiyou Community Health Center as suggested by member Soash. AllCare Health and Red Robin have also new landscaping.

MOTION/VOTE

Member McBerty moved Chair Russell seconded approval of the two Japanese Maples at Evergreen Federal for the Significant Tree Award. The vote resulted as follows:

“AYES”: Committee Members Russell, Love, DePew, McBerty, Holzinger, Soash and Ballenger. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Reinert

The motion passed.

MOTION/VOTE

Member McBerty moved Chair Russell seconded approval of the Three Rivers Outpatient Center for the significant Landscape Award.

The vote resulted as follows:

“AYES”: Committee Members Russell, Love, DePew, McBerty, Holzinger, Soash and Ballenger. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Reinert

The motion passed.

II. Business - New

A. Announcements

- Members haven't heard from Bill Reinert. They know his wife has been ill but they have not heard from him. Chair Russell will give him a call.

B. Schools/Arbor Day

- Chair Russell mentioned doing the celebration at one of the middle schools. He would like to speak to one of the principal's and is willing to make a call.
- North Middle School on Highland might still have a gardening club and they may be interested in helping with this. Dan McBerty's wife Sharon relayed via text message that having the celebration at Riverside School may be a great idea and is a good connection to their tree planting field trip they just had last month. Dan will contact the principal.
- The riparian area behind the school was done. Ken Garrison said they did both banks at that location.

C. Comments -

- Tree Walk map for Reinhart Park and expanding year-round tree lights for downtown.
- There are two Tree Canopy Programs. The \$50 tree purchase program got 1 star at Strategic planning. The Tree Canopy Program for commercial development got 3 stars.
- Don't Block the Box. Group is unsure what this means.
- They would like to get on the workshop agenda to let the council know what they are trying to accomplish with the Tree Canopy Program (commercial). They have been working on a plan and goals since June of 2015 and would like to see some progress on this.
- Winco parking lot. The trees are dead. Chair Russell talked to Jeff Nelson about it and Jeff stated he would work on it this spring.

MOTION/VOTE

Committee Member Love moved and Committee Member Russell seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Committee Members Russell, Love, Holzinger, DePew, Soash, McBerty, and Ballenger. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Reinert. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm
Next Meeting: March 13, 2017

Minutes prepared by Donna Anderson, City of Grants Pass Administration.