

GRANTS PASS URBAN TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2019 at 6:30 PM
Courtyard Conference Room

Committee Members:

James Love, Chair
Stormy Ballenger, Vice Chair
Michael Holzinger
Aaron Macpherson
Dan McBerty
Ross Roe - Absent
Jeff Soash - Absent
Doug Tripp

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Joel King (City Council)
Valerie Lovelace (City Council)
Chad Westbrook (City Parks)

Guests:

Roy Lindsay (Mayor)
Taylor Graybehl, City Planning
Jason Maki – Blue Zones

AGENDA:

1. **Roll Call** – Chair Love took roll and started the meeting.
2. **Items from Public:** (opportunity for citizens to share information with the Committee regarding items that are not on the agenda).
 - a. Jason Maki talked about the Blue Zone Project. He would like to help with organizing a tree planting in this quarter. He has a lot of resources at his disposal and works with many local organizations. Jeff Soash added that there are challenges to getting the trees in the ground. Jason asked if there were some leads on some neighborhoods that could use plantings. He could use direction from this committee. Aaron Macpherson suggested a mass email to reach out for suggestions. Stormy Ballenger asked if there are other cities that have done something similar and is he restricted to just Grants Pass. He said yes, there have been other communities but doesn't have specifics. His service area is 97526 and 97527 but he's concentrating on the core of Grants Pass. Jason may be able to join in with Ross Roe's tree planting program. They further discussed timing of the plantings (spring and fall) and the funding of those trees and where to plant them.
3. **Minutes**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes:** December 10, 2018. It was noted that minutes of the December meeting incorrectly stated August 2018 in two places.

MOTION/VOTE

Member McBerty moved and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the minutes from December 10, 2018 as amended. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair Love, Vice Chair Ballenger, Members Holzinger, Macpherson, McBerty, and Tripp. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Soash and Roe.
The motion passed.

4. **Work Session Items:**
 - a. Booth at the Growers Market – Volunteers are needed to operate the booth. Members discussed having a booth twice a year to give out information about the various programs the City has. They tabled remainder of the discussion until the February meeting.
 - b. Grants for trees in vacant lots – Members discussed types of grants and if it is the City that would go after the grants. There needs to be a plan and the City Grant Coordinator would need some direction. Stone Forest Service Nursery

often has surplus seedlings for free. Valerie introduced Joel King and mentioned that he was a forester and he will tie in nicely with the goals of this committee.

- c. Tree City Growth Award – Chad spoke about the basic Tree City USA application. It is a part of their goals. Application deadline was December 31, but they were able to get an extension and were able to get the award. Formerly, Grants Pass got the award from 1991 to 1997. That was the last time. They will get their award materials in April for Arbor Day.

5. Information Sharing:

- a. Items from Staff –
 - Chad talked about vehicular damage to trees and they don't get replaced. He asked the committee to look at the Municipal Code to possibly add it to the agenda for next month to look at the language that they can present to the City Council. Is there a penalty for damaging the tree in our Code?
 - Chad updated the tree maps for Reinhart and Riverside parks. They are located at the Chamber of Commerce and Recreation Northwest. Fourteen new signs are being made that are identical to the ones at Riverside Park. The older signs have already been replaced.
- b. Items from Committee Members –
 - Chair Love has a list for Significant Landscape Award nominations. AllCare, In-N-Out, Tractor Supply and Countryside Village are on the list. This committee will nominate and award. Award(s) will be made and a plaque presented to them at the Arbor Day Celebration.

MOTION/VOTE

Member McBerty moved and Member Ballenger seconded the motion to approve nominations for the Significant Landscape Award for AllCare Health, Countryside Village, In-N-Out Burger, and Tractor Supply. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair Love, Vice Chair Ballenger, Members Holzinger, Macpherson, McBerty, and Tripp. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Soash and Roe. The motion passed.

- c. Items from City Council Liaison –
 - Councilor King mentioned to Chad the lack of large conifers in the riparian zone along the Rogue River. Maybe start the planting at the water plant along the bike path and close to the river.
 - Councilor King talked about the South Y and the landscaping that ODOT plans to do. It is ODOT right-of-way, so they will provide the maintenance of it and City will provide the water. Might be a potential award nomination for next year.
 - Mayor Lindsay thanked this committee for their volunteer time.
- d. Calendar Events for 2019
 - Preparing for Arbor Day. Need to choose a location.
 - Growers Market booth. Two people to operate the booth would be helpful.
 - Recreation Guide information.
 - Spring Tree Walk in April.
 - The November 2019 meeting date is on Veterans Day.

6. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting

- a. Municipal Code research.
- b. Targeting one planting for the fall.
- c. Survey.

7. Adjournment

- a. Member McBerty moved and Jeff Soash seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM. All approved.

Next Meeting: January 14, 2019

Minutes prepared by Donna Anderson, City Administration.