

**GRANTS PASS URBAN TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes February 13, 2023, 6:30 PM**  
**City Council Chambers**

**Committee Members:**

Doug Tripp, Chair  
Vacant, Vice Chair  
Michael Holzinger - Virtual  
James Love  
Michael Cartmill  
Nicole Kieffer - Absent  
Barbra Villona – Absent  
Diana Thornton

**City/Staff/Council Liaisons:**

Shelly Stichter (Public Works)  
Joel King, City Council Liaison  
Josh Hopkins – Parks Superintendent

**Guests:**

Trevor Kimler – Streets and Drainage

**AGENDA:**

**1. Roll Call:**

- a. Chair Tripp took roll and started meeting at 6:31 p.m.

**2. Introductions:**

**a. New Committee Members:**

- Michael Cartmill introduced himself. He is a forester for a company called Vibrant Planet. He previously worked for the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Bureau of Land Management as well as the US Forest Service in various states around the western United States.
- Diana Thornton introduced herself. She works for the County has nothing to do with trees. She does have a degree in biology and ecology, so she has done a lot of work with trees.

**3. Public Comments:**

- a. None.

**4. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Approval of Minutes from: January 9, 2023

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES**

**Chair Tripp moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2023, as submitted. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Tripp, Members Holzinger, Love, Cartmill, and Thornton. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Villona and Kieffer. The motion passed.**

**5. Action Items:**

**a. Vice Chair Elections:**

**MOTION**

**Chair Tripp moved, and Member Love seconded the motion to appoint Michael Holzinger as Vice Chair. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Tripp. Members Love, Cartmill, Holzinger, and Thornton. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Villona and Kieffer. The motion passed.**

- b. **Incorporating hazardous tree removal with sidewalk alternatives:**
  - Streets Superintendent Shelly Stichter went over the Tree Programs with the Committee. She discussed the Hazardous Tree Program. This program provides people with options other than just removing the trees to mitigate some of those hazards. It is a cost share program for trees that are in a semipublic or public right of way strip. The City will pay up to 50% of the tree removal cost and replanting cost.
  - Another program is the Hazardous Sidewalk Program which is similar in nature. Oftentimes they go hand in hand because their trees are creating a sidewalk hazard because of uplifting roots and panels.
- c. **Tree Deposit Fund for Tree Planting:**
  - This was moved to the next meeting.
- d. **Spring Tree Walk:**
  - The Committee discussed dates to hold the Spring Tree Walk. There was a motion to hold the Spring Walk on Saturday, April 8, 2023, at Lawnridge Park.

**MOTION**

**Chair Tripp moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to hold the Spring Tree Walk on April 8, 2023, at Lawnridge Park. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair Tripp. Members Holzinger, Love, Cartmill, and Thornton. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Villona and Kieffer. The motion passed.**

- e. **Tree Well Grants:**
  - There is no new information on this topic at this time.
- f. **Arbor Day Discussion:**
  - The Committee moved to have the Arbor Day Celebration at Fruitdale Park and plant a Tulip Tree.

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES**

**Chair Tripp moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to hold the Arbor Day Celebration at Fruitdale Park and plant a Tulip Tree. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair Tripp. Members Holzinger, Love, Cartmill, and Thornton. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Villona and Kieffer. The motion passed.**

**6. Matters from Committee Members**

- a. There is no new information at this time.

**7. Matters from Staff**

- There is no new information at this time.

**8. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting**

- a. Introduce new Urban Forester
- b. Tree Deposit Fund for Tree Planting
- c. Tree Well Grants
- d. Storing Committee Information and Data to Teams or Dropbox File
- e. Arbor Day - Discussion

**9. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:43 pm

**Next Meeting: April 10, 2023, at 6:30 PM**

*Minutes prepared by Jayme Hyatt, Community Development Department*