

GRANTS PASS URBAN TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2022, 6:30 PM
City Council Chambers

Committee Members:

Doug Tripp, Chair
David Renton, Vice Chair
Michael Holzinger - Virtual
James Love - Absent
Dan McBerty - Absent
Chris Rudd - Absent
Nicole Kieffer - Virtual
Barbra Villona - Virtual

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Curt Collins (City Councilor)
Tony Mecum (Community Development & Public Works)

Guests:

None

AGENDA:

- 1. Roll Call:**
 - a. Chair Tripp started the meeting at 6:30 pm.
- 2. Introductions:**
 - a. None
- 3. Items from the Public:**
 - a. None
- 4. Approval of Minutes:**
 - a. Approval of Minutes from January 10, 2022.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Villona moved, and Vice-Chair Renton seconded the motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Vice-Chair Renton, Members Holzinger, Villona, and Kieffer. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: Chair Tripp. Absent: Members Love, McBerty, and Rudd.

The motion passed.

5. Action Items:

- a. Committee Chair Election
 - i. Member Villona nominated Doug Tripp, stating that he has done a great job as Chair. Vice-Chair Renton seconded the nomination. Chair Tripp accepted the nomination.

MOTION/VOTE

Vice-Chair Renton moved, and Chair Tripp seconded the motion to close nominations and to elect Doug Tripp as Chair of the Committee. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Tripp, Vice-Chair Renton, Members Holzinger, Villona, and Kieffer. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Love, McBerty, and Rudd.

The motion passed.

- b. Heritage Tree Program and Nominations
 - i. Urban Forester presented an overview of the Heritage Tree Program.
 - ii. A right-of-way tree nomination does not require the adjacent property owner to sign off. The City Manager is needed to sign.
 - iii. Member Villona mentioned that she knows a redwood she would like to nominate.
 - iv. Member Holzinger mentioned a tree in the alley behind G Street.
 - v. Councilor Collins mentioned trees on Harbeck Rd.
- c. Tree Deposit Update from Councilor Collins

- i. Councilor Collins explained that the fund has \$64,000. This does not include the costs associated with Washington Blvd.
 - ii. Urban Forester mentioned that the deposit may include the Tree Canopy Program and Memorial Tree Program. The fund may also contain funds that could still be returned to developers.
 - iii. Member Villona requested that the Committee see a list of possible tree plantings in town. Member Holzinger said that Member McBerty has a list. Chair Tripp said Member Love also has a list. Chair Tripp said the Committee could review the lists. Chair Tripp also encouraged committee members to send locations for new trees.
 - iv. Councilor Collins mentioned the possibility of looking into the Caveman Plaza.
 - d. Coordination and Input into the Energy Taskforce
 - i. Urban Forester stated that the Taskforce may or may not look into the urban forest as part of their goals. He also mentioned that there is an open forestry-related position open on the Taskforce.
- 6. Matters from Committee Members**
 - a. Member Kieffer asked for information on how urban forestry is being impacted by the current drought situation. Chair Tripp explained some of the management strategies he has employed and what is recommended for tree care.
- 7. Matters from Staff**
 - a. Tree City USA and Growth Award
 - i. Urban Forester explained that the City received its 34th year as Tree City USA and 11th Growth Award.
 - b. Strategic Goals Update
 - i. Council ranked the “Urban Forest Management Plan” as a one-star item.
 - c. Arbor Day 2022
 - i. In April that the Committee plans.
 - ii. This is different than the tree walk.
- 8. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting**
 - a. Heritage Tree Nominations
 - b. Tree Planting Locations
 - c. Tree Walk and Tags
 - d. Arbor Day Planning
- 9. Adjournment**
 - a. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 pm

Next Meeting: March 14, 2022, at 6:30 PM

Minutes prepared by Tony Mecum, Urban Forester, Community Development & Public Works