

GRANTS PASS URBAN TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2016 at 7:00 PM
Courtyard Conference Room

Committee Members:

Dave Russell (Chair) - Absent
James Love (Vice Chair) - Absent
Stormy Ballenger - Absent
Dan McBerty
William Reinert
Clifford Ostermeier
Michael Holzinger
Willow Burnett-DePew

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Jeff Nelson (City Liaison) - Absent
Dan DeYoung (City Council)
Ken Garrison (City Parks)

Guests:

I. Business – Continuing

- **Member McBerty was acting chair for this meeting as Chair Russell and Vice Chair Love were both absent.**

A. Approval of Minutes from May 9, 2016.

MOTION/VOTE

Committee Member Holzinger moved and Committee Member Burnett-DePew seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2016 meeting as presented. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Committee Members McBerty, Reinert, Ostermeier, Holzinger, and Burnett-DePew. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Russell, Love and Ballenger. The motion passed.

II. Business - New

A. Announcements

- Ken let the committee know that they will be removing eleven cottonwood trees on the Allen Creek Trail as the trail is being repaved and they are causing damage to the trail with their root systems.
- The City pruned the large oak that was lying partially on the old fire station building at Baker Park.
- The committee let Ken know about the cottonwood by the walking path at Baker Park that has fire damage. IT is starting to break up and could be a hazard. IT is near the old Texas property.
- The committee mentioned that the sick fir tree on A and 7th was removed.
- The tree at the Methodist church had a break. The City street department went and cleared the mess.

B. May 15th Spring Tree Walk Discussion

- The Spring Tree Walk coincided with several other events and there was little to no turnout. The minutes reflect that the tree walk will be moved to April next year and that may increase attendance.
- It was mentioned that South Middle School does a nature project each year and pulls weeds, etc. The committee might be able to get some kids from the middle schools if the tree walk was held during the school day.

Notice would need to be given to the schools to plan it into their curriculum.

- The committee asked if it would be possible for a member of city staff to come out and teach about trees if there were to do a school event. It would need to be approved by Jeff/Lora and would likely just come down to man power.

C. Master Gardener Booth Update

- The committee members present all agreed that they like the idea of sharing a booth to promote the \$50 tree program. It was suggested to do it in the fall.
- Ken let the committee know that the trees are usually available in September. It may be possible to borrow two trees similar to what we would plant to show at the booth.
- It was suggested that the two trees used at the booth be used to replace the dead trees on H Street near Napa.
- The committee had a discussion about where the responsibility lies and the process to replace trees in the downtown/historic area.
- It was requested that one of the committee members either call or go down to growers market to discuss sharing a booth with the Master Gardeners.

D. Event Calendar Review

- This has been moved to the next meeting.

E. Updates

- Ken let the committee know that the twelve tree have all been planted.
- The committee is going before the City Council to discuss what the committee is currently working on. Councilor DeYoung suggested that the committee discuss how the trees in Grants Pass make it differ from the surrounding area and how the trees make Grants Pass great. He would love to see Grants Pass become a bedroom community to Medford and the business there and the canopy and park-like atmosphere of Grants Pass makes it ideal for that purpose.

F. Comments

- None.

Next Meeting: July 11, 2016

These minutes were prepared by Carlie Paulsen, Administration Department, City of Grants Pass.