

GRANTS PASS URBAN TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023, 6:30 PM
City Council Chambers

Committee Members:

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

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Shelly Stichter (Public Works)
Vacant, City Council – Absent
Josh Hopkins – Parks Superintendent

Guests:

Allegra Star

AGENDA:

1. Roll Call:

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

2. Introductions:

- a. None

3. Public Comments:

- a. None.

4. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Approval of Minutes from: July 11, 2022
December 8, 2022

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Chair Tripp moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2022, as submitted. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Tripp, Vice Chair Renton, Members Holzinger, Love, Villona, and Kieffer. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member McBerty.
The motion passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Chair Tripp moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the minutes of December 8, 2022, as submitted. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Tripp, Vice Chair Renton, Members Holzinger, Love, Villona, and Kieffer. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member McBerty.
The motion passed.

5. Action Items:

a. Strategic Plan Council Presentations:

- The Committee discussed the Strategic Plan Council Presentations. The strategic planning is underway. It happens every year. This is where either a committee chair or vice chair will come explain the strategic goals for that committee for the following year. They provide a presentation to Council outlining their goals. The Chair/Vice Chair talk over which goals were selected and why. Then they plead the case as

to why those should be high on priority for strategic planning. You get an overview of what happened last year, difficulties you experienced etc., and then plans for moving forward.

b. Committee Appointments:

- The Committee discussed the candidates who applied for the vacant UTAC positions. They went over each of the applicants and discussed the pros and cons.

MOTION

Chair Tripp moved, and Member Holzinger seconded the motion to prioritize the candidates in order of 1 through 6. 1 – Doug Tripp. 2 – Deanna Thornton. 3 – Michael Cartmill. 4 – Catherine Kiefer. 5 – Logan Warner. 6 – Matthew Tacilauskas. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Tripp, Vice Chair Renton, Members Holzinger, Love, Villona, and Kieffer. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member McBerty. The motion passed.

c. Chair/Vice Chair Elections:

- Vice Chair election was moved to the next meeting.

MOTION

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

d. Tree Well Grants:

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

e. Incorporating hazardous tree removal with sidewalk alternatives:

- Chair Tripp wants to talk to Shelley Sticher, the Streets Superintendent, a little bit more about the hazardous tree program and what really covers in terms of sidewalk replacement.
- The committee had some discussion on this but decided to add it to next month's agenda.

6. Matters from Committee Members

- a. Member Love asked where did we leave things in terms of getting street trees planted downtown? They discussed the funding and how to access the fund. Parks Supervisor Chad Westbrook will check chosen locations to make sure we could put the trees there. He will also look into what species of tree are the best for that area. Chair Tripp said that he would like to put that as an agenda item for next month's meeting.

7. Matters from Staff

- Josh said that the Parks Dept. is still looking for an Urban Forester. We have two candidates. One, we're interviewing this week and one, we are interviewing next week. We are hopeful that it will work out with at least one, if not both applicants.

- Josh stated that we are still working on getting everyone tree plotter access. This is on the list for this week to try and figure that out. He believes several committee members do have old accounts so he might be able to just reactivate those accounts.
- The committee would like to recommend that the City gets some sort of verified software like tree plotter, some of the Davey products or others that do similar work and incorporated into the city.
- Josh stated that we have started planting tree canopy trees. They have about 40 trees to plant at private residences, businesses, and things like that.
- We are still planting a few memorial trees this month to catch up on that.

8. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting

- a. Vice Chair Election
- b. Incorporating hazardous tree removal with sidewalk alternatives
- c. Tree Deposit Fund for Tree Planting
- d. Spring Tree Walk
- e. Tree Well Grants
- f. Storing Committee Information and Data to Teams or Dropbox File
- g. Arbor Day

9. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:43 pm

Next Meeting: February 13, at 6:30 PM

Minutes prepared by Jayme Hyatt, Community Development Department