

**(DRAFT)**

**URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

FEBRUARY 21, 2020 8:05AM

City Hall – City Hall Conference Room 5

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Schwandt, Vice Chairman  
Gina Davis  
Steve Bloedel  
Bob Hallock

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Glenn Truscott (resigned/ended term)  
Bruce Martinek  
Erika Eidson

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Michael Beadoin (Idaho Dpt. Of Lands)  
Bill Greenwood (Parks Director)  
Kenny Gabriel (CDA Fire Chief)  
J.D. Reeves (NIC)  
Trevis Wilson (NIC)  
Craig Bettencourt (NIC)

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order at 8:10 am by Acting Chairman, John Schwandt. John stated that if there were no objections that he thought the committee should allow the guests present to discuss the Tubbs hill burn project as well as the Arbor day event go first on our agenda so that they may leave the meeting when those agenda items are discussed.

**1) TUBBS HILL FUEL MITIGATION PROJECT**

Bill Greenwood and Kenny Gabriel provided an overview of the Tubbs hill mitigation project and described the details and weather requirements for the burn. This included info regarding tree felling and pruning on the hill which will be under the direction of the Urban forester. Bill and Kenny detailed the protection efforts that will include sprinkling certain portion of the hill to create their own weather pattern and keep the fire from spreading beyond the prescribed burn area. Bill Greenwood also mentioned that the parks department will be laying wattle at the perimeter/shore line of the hill after the burn to help prevent ash from leaching into the lake. Bill Greenwood, Kenny Gabriel and Nick Goodwin laid out the proposed timeline for the burn as the first half of April and noted that the burn will be dependent on weather conditions. Gina Davis asked if there was any chance that the city may perform the prescribed burn at a later date if the weather allowed for it to be done. Kenny stated that the window for the burn may not present itself in early April it will likely not be done until next season if the weather allows it then. Nick Goodwin mentioned that the he would be on the hill marking hazard trees for removal and flagging seedling areas for protection. Nick also mentioned that there would be seedling planting programs planned for the fall and that regardless of if weather allows for the burn to take place, the prep work would be beneficial. This was an “info only” presentation the committee voiced it support of the proposed project. Nick Goodwin asked the group if they would be interested in scheduling a site walk on Tubbs hill in the next few weeks and the committee was in favor of this. Nick Goodwin said he would send out some date options after this meeting was over. Michael Beadoin mentioned that he would also be a great point of contact for this project for IDL.

**2) ARBOR DAY 2020**

Nick Goodwin introduced the guests from North Idaho College and opened the floor to them. Trevis Wilson laid out the joint Arbor Day celebration that the college and city will be planning and holding together. The event will take place April 25<sup>th</sup> and will be held on the NIC campus and the main staging area will be west of the Student Union Building near the Childcare center. College staff said that the student government will be getting involved with event and paying for some of there own trees. The Urban Forster, City Arborists and the college staff will be putting on multiple classes for attendees including a tree walk which will showcase different species and demonstrate “right tree right place”. Nick Goodwin will be teaching a structural pruning class on young trees and there will be a planting class along with the planting of 5-9 trees. Nick thanked the college and their participation with the event and expressed exactment about the opportunities this collaboration offers with the event.

### **3) PUBLIC COMMENT**

Micheal Beudoin from the Idaho department of lands announced that there will be a new North Idaho Urban Forestry Assistant and it will be Garth Davis from Spokane County Conservation District. So there will be able to assist Michael with Arbor day. Michael also mentioned that his office will be hosting an Arborist preparation class that will be available to municipal employee’s first, this will be an opportunity to train and then take the Arborist certification test. Michael also brought up the IRPA conference in Post Falls and invited everyone that is interested to please attend. John Schwandt also mentioned that he will be giving a talk on “the good the bad and the ugly” regarding trees to the local garden club

### **4) APPROVE OF THE JANUARY 17, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Bob Hallock to approve the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and seconded by Gina Davis. Unanimously approved.

### **5) FORESTERS REPORT**

Please see the attached report. Bob Hallock asked if the parks department will be renting a large man lift to perform pruning in the parks. Nick mentioned that the new bucket truck has made the lift rental less necessary but will touch base with the Parks Department as to weather we will be renting that lift in the future.

### **6) URBAN FORESTRY MASTER PLAN**

Nick Goodwin said that he has a few edits that he is finishing up on the master plan. Nick said that the plan is to attach the master plan as an appendix to the Parks Master Plan with a summary that will be incorporated into the plan that lays out the main goals and details of the entire plan. Michael Beudoin asked to please send him a copy of the Master plan once if is finalized as he would like to use it as an example for other cities.

### **7) URBAN FORESTRY PROJECT IDEAS**

John Schwandt mentioned that he would like to see some trees planted at the new RV park that is located near the Fair Grounds as it currently has no trees, he knows its not a City property but maybe we could contact them. Nick Goodwin said he would look into it. Nick Goodwin stated that he is

planning on having the parks department plant the majority of the current stock at the city nursery that are 1.5” or larger so that we can get the more root bound trees in the ground and keep the nursery stock “rotating”. Bob Hallock mentioned that the RV park was paid for the be RV’ers of America.

**8) INSPECTION REQUESTS**

- 222 E. Garden Avenue: Spruce Tree removal with proposed driveway installation – Denied pending permit and contractor information for driveway once that information is turned in the forester would be able to approve.

**9) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 10:18am. There were no on site inspections to follow.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester