

URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE NOTES

JUNE 21 2019 8:05AM

City Hall – City Hall Conference Room 5

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Erika Eidson
Bob Hallock
Gina Davis
Steve Bloedel
Bruce Martinek

STAFF PRESENT:

Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Glenn Truscott
John Schandt, Vice Chairman
Keith Jones, Chairman

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting started at 8:10am.

1) MINUTES

Bruce Martinek motioned to accept the May 17th meeting minutes seconded by Bob Hallock, unanimously approved.

2) PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3) COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Please see attached report.

4) LAKESIDE TREE SPECIES: FRAXINUS REPLACEMENT

Nick Goodwin mentioned that there are a few green ash trees that are in decline in tree wells located on Lakeside Avenue that may be affected by an upcoming sidewalk project which led him to include this item on the agenda. Erika Eidson stated that the committee may have to take the emerald ash borer into consideration when assessing removal requests regarding Ash trees. Erika suggested possibly a separate grading system, with the threat of the emerald ash borer we may only want to suggest retaining trees that are in very good condition. The committee recommended Emerald sunshine elm (*Ulmus propinqua*), Emerald city tulip tree (*Lindodendron tulipifera* 'JFS-Oz'), Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) and the Hardy rubber tree (*Eucommia ulmoides*) as suitable replacements for Fraxinus in particular would like to see Emerald sunshine elm, Tulip tree and

Hackberry on lakeside.

5) TREE GRATES AND TREE WELL SPECIFICATIONS

Nick Goodwin informed the committee that he has been in talks with the street department with the intention of developing specification for tree wells and having them adopted as code. He also stated that along with members of the street department met with EJ ironworks to see options for tree grate replacements. Nick also stated that the intention is to choose a size, thickness and style of tree grate that will be standard and have adopted as city code as well. The hope is to have uniform tree well grates throughout the city that can be easily purchased and stocked. There are several styles of grates with different thickness and size throughout the city and Nick hopes to uniform tree grates throughout the city so that they can be easily interchanged and replaced. Erika Eidson asked for an update on the east Sherman project and whether the committee's input has been included in any of the east Sherman project planning. Nick said that he would touch base with the planning department and provide an update on east Sherman to the committee and provide the committee's comments to planning.

6) URBAN FORESTRY MASTER PLAN

The urban forester provided the updated master plan and asked the committee to review and they could decide at a later date if they wanted to have another master plan workshop.

7) URBAN FORESTRY PROJECT IDEAS

The committee discussed mistletoe pruning on Tubbs hill the committee suggested that this may be a project that could be done in house. Nick Goodwin mentioned that he will be planning VIP pruning project in the library parking lot as this was requested by the director.

8) INSPECTION REQUESTS

- Center median Evergreen Dr. - Two ponderosa pine trees reviewed for hazard, one deemed to be hazardous removal is required. The other was deemed to not represent a significant hazard.
- 1506 7th St. – two large cottonwood trees, the committee stated that if the sidewalk replacement results in the both sides of the trees being ground than the trees must be removed. The committee wanted to stress that removal is recommended as the trees could easily lift and damage the sidewalks again in the future if retained.
- 2640 N. Government way- removal request of five to seven trees : systematic removal and replacement approved if the contractor and owner are willing to replace with larger trees and allow time for the replacement trees to grow large enough to be a suitable replacement before the remaining trees are removed and replaced.
- 1191 Elderberry circle – removal request due to sidewalk obstruction: removal approved due to the ash trees susceptibility to emerald ash borer after damage to root system,

9) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 10:15 am. Field inspections followed adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester