



Committee Members:

Chairperson - Van Voorhis, Ken
Burt, Melissa
Davis, Garth
Lindstrom, Phil
Wright, Chris
Alternate – Cameron, Randy
Alternate – Traver, Susan

Also Present: Park Board – Ross Kelley; Staff – Leroy Eadie, Cheryl Miller, Jeff Perry, Angel Spell;
CAC – Cindy Deffe, Chris Hilgert, Marilyn Lloyd, Ed Miles; and Citizen – Nancy MacKerrow.

**Urban Forestry Tree Committee of the Spokane Park Board
April 5, 2011, 4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Manito Park Meeting Room, Manito Park
Angel Spell, Urban Forester**

Summary

- The Roadmap to the Future Action Plan status update was discussed. Three items were consistently identified as high priority; tree inventory, the permitting system, and collaboration.
- The Urban Forestry Work Plan & Budget Options were briefly discussed.
- Trees on the golf courses were discussed.
- The Subcommittee on the Permitting Process will make a recommendation.
- More heritage trees are being evaluated for presentation at future meetings.
- Urban Forestry will have a presence at upcoming Earth Day and Arbor Day events.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 by Ken Van Voorhis.

Action Items:

None.

Discussion Items:

1. Roadmap to the Future Action Plan Status Report

The Organizational Priority list was distributed by Angel Spell and reviewed. There is an Urban Forestry study session scheduled for April 14th following the Park Board meeting. Its purpose is to educate attendees so they may be better equipped to make decisions concerning Urban Forestry issues. Three items were consistently identified as high priority; tree inventory, the permitting system, and collaboration. Prioritizing Roadmap issues and development of all types of tree management plans are dependent on having an accurate tree inventory, which is dependent on available funding. Keeping the inventory accurate will require a permitting system to be in place that is capable of maintaining inventory information. Currently the permitting system is not connected to the City's permitting center, but relies completely on manual entries. The permitting process also provides an opportunity for education & outreach. Collaboration between divisions and other departments is a high priority as there are numerous instances where many of them are responsible for various items in the same physical location. Some improvement has already been realized, but more is needed.

2. Urban Forestry Work Plan & Budget Options

A five year plan was distributed by Angel and reviewed. This plan shows more detail than earlier versions of the information. A comprehensive tree inventory is not included as a line item. There was discussion about whether trees on the golf courses are under the jurisdiction of the Golf Division or Urban Forestry. Currently, Golf maintains a staff arborist and commercial tree service contractor.

3. Subcommittee on Permitting Process

Per Melissa Burttt a recommendation to have permitting built into an existing system needs to be drafted and presented.

Standing Report items:

1. Urban Forestry Staff Report

Angel provided a written report. An inquiry regarding heritage trees was presented. There are 3 to 6 trees that should be ready for the next meeting, leaving a list of 49 trees that need to be evaluated.

2. Citizen Advisory Committee Report

Garth Davis reported:

- a. Julie Neff provided a report from the street tree interdepartmental group.

- b. Andrew Rolwes provided an update about some downtown plantings.
- c. Updates were provided regarding having an Urban Forestry presence at Earth Day and Arbor Day activities.
- d. Promoting Tree Line USA and Tree Campus USA in the City.
- e. A concern regarding apple maggots was presented.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Next regularly scheduled meeting is May 3, 2011, at 4:15 p.m. in the Manito Meeting Room, Manito Park.