



**Citizen Advisory Committee
To Spokane Urban Forestry Tree Committee**

MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2010

4:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

2. ROLL CALL

a. All members of the UF CAC were present except Geri, Ed and Cindy. Also present: Angel Spell and Beth Mort (staff members, Urban Forestry Program – Jeff Perry was not present). Guests: Nancy MacKerrow.

3. CEREMONIES, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Minutes for the August 3, 2010 Meeting were reviewed. Pam moved that the Minutes be accepted as written. Dinah seconded the motion. Motion carried and the Minutes were accepted.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Nancy traveled to Chicago in July to attend the Tour de Trees. They planted three trees in Millennium Park and a Susie tree in Glen Cove, IL. She shared a bag of homemade traditional tree cookies (known as Tree Kibbles), passed out during events for tree planting. Arborists read a tree grant. Next year Nancy will travel to Virginia Beach, VA for the Tour de Trees and plans to plant a Susie Tree at that gathering.

6. REPORTS

a. Education Outreach and Volunteer Recruitment subcommittee.

Did not meet this month, Cindy was out of town.

b. Street Tree Interdepartmental Discussions

Julie reported that staff will be meeting at least once a month, possibly twice a month. She provided draft diagrams for residential infill. and draft diagrams showing -where to plant in these situations. In addition, a draft list of possible paving or subgrade alternatives is being developed which may be possibilities for an application for a departure from engineering standards, which will be revised once a year. The next step is to finish the documents so they can be made public.

Angel noted that she - and Jeff have been working on a sub-set of small and medium trees that

will be suitable to 4' and 5' of green space. They are still being told from SPA that they want more information, such as, what can be done with a 3' strip? CAC needs to offer something to the process; i.e. moving the sidewalks, or putting the tree behind the sidewalk.

Garth suggested keeping a list of comments made by people, for the purpose of writing future grants.

c. The Downtown Street Tree subcommittee

They have been working on the particulars of how to disperse funds to property owners. City is offering to pay ½ the cost of the tree grate, DSP will pay for the tree which will encourage them to get the largest tree possible for the space. There are currently ten new grates in the ground, and seven on order. Tree grates cost \$600, DSP is reimbursing \$300. Potentially there will be four new trees on Wall St, a beech tree by Thomas Hammer (unique to downtown). New tree by Aunties parking lot, stump replaced by parking lot owner. Three new ginkgos on 1st next to the Knitting Factory. The irrigation has been checked on all trees and they work. Working with Sergio DeLeon and Agave to plant a row of trees on Lincoln – notice that the existing trees are all dead. Water department has allowed time to work with us to look at grates/lids and at irrigation lines. They think the lines had been working but the old concrete lids had expanded to the point that could not be pulled up by hand, therefore maintenance was not kept up. Beth asked that the DSP provide information of work progress so it can be posted to UFTC website.

d. Vegetation Management Plan (aka: Urban Forest Management Plan) subcommittee

Diligently meeting every week. The UFMP is basically being re-written and becoming a very different document than the original vegetation plan. Wrapped up history section. Jim Flott needs to add his input. They are looking at measurable targets for canopy cover and management. December is the deadline for the draft. All existing elements of the vegetation plan are in the new plan. They are trying to make it more reader friendly and giving it action items.

e. Angel Spell, City of Spokane, Urban Forester

Angel has hired Mike Sanborn as a seasonal/temp arborist. Angel gave a brief summary of this past month's activities in the UF program. Her very informative and complete information recap report is attached.

CAC still needs CA representative. A landscape architect has been approached to fill member-at-large position. We still need a historic preservation representative. Question was brought up; does that person need to be from SPA or can they be from the City's Historic Preservation office?

7. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion Item – CAC Vacancies

See 3. above.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Champion Tree Identification

Garth is planning to look for Spokane trees listed in the Van der Pelt(sp?) book. Anyone interested in traveling along, contact him. The goal will be to nominate these trees as Heritage Trees.

b. August 14th is the Manito Park celebration. Booth is being set up between 10-2 pm.

c. Inventory grant

UFTC is looking for volunteers to do data collection. Wants to start soon and work all winter as long as weather conditions permit. Targeted regions will be to go from neighborhood to neighborhood based on interest and how much activity each neighborhood is willing to volunteer time. Angel is also interested in finding a professional arborist to volunteer time for data collection.

d. UFTC

There will be an appeal at the next UFTC meeting. Angel denied removal of a tree and the property owner is bringing a lawyer to appeal.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Pam motioned we conclude the August meeting at 5:43 pm. Ben seconded the motion.

The Citizen Advisory Committee to the City of Spokane Urban Forestry Tree Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month, 4:00 pm, at the Manito Meeting Room, Manito Park, in Spokane, Washington.



Urban Forestry

www.spokaneurbanforestry.org

Garth Davis, Chair

Dinah Reed, Secretary

Monthly Report – July 25, 2010

Administration

1. A new Temp/Seasonal arborist will begin in September. His/her duties will include street tree licensing, permitting, code enforcement, sign clearance pruning, and inventory.
2. Continued revision of the Vegetation Management Plan.
3. Continued participation in Interdepartmental Discussion group. A policy product and guidance on infill planting of narrow parking strips is expected to be completed in August.
4. Continued participation in GP Red Roadmap to the Future process.
5. Three vacancies remain on the Citizen Advisory Committee: Historic Preservation, Community Assembly, and Member-at-Large.

Media/Marketing/Communications

6. Developed utility bill insert to promote our donation program which will launch in September. Website information page and other media releases are in development.

Funding

7. Awarded a \$30,000 grant from WDNR and USDA Forest Service for urban forest resource inventory. Funds will be used to purchase an additional TreeWorks™ license and hire temporary staff to collect data. This grant is separate from the \$10,000 awarded by the same agencies for a public education project.

Partnerships

8. Joined the Alliance for Community Trees *NeighborWoods* program. Invitations to all Neighborhood Councils to participate in the program will be sent in August.
9. Joined the Community Canopy tree education partnership.

Planning & Engineering Projects

10. Continued consultation on Youth Baseball Field construction projects and Overlook Bluff park construction in Browne's Addition.
11. Attended Engineering briefing on expected 2011 Street and Water projects.

Operations

12. Root evaluations/pruning for the Thurston St and Lincoln St project.
13. Pruned trees within and on the south side of the Japanese Garden for clearance and crown-cleaning.
14. Cleanup in the parks related to a wind storm that occurred July 12. Mostly minor incidents; no whole tree failures.
15. Removed one large branch from an Elm tree at 4009 E. 37th. This was a severely damaged private tree from the wind storm. Failure of the limb was imminent.
16. Part of a large Black Locust at 2427 E. 4th (Street Tree) failed and UF was called because the remaining stem (20"DBH x 60') was in the process of failing. The UF crew removed the remaining stem and the street department cleaned up the debris.
17. Met with Avista regarding clearance issues on Upriver Drive and Centennial Trail.
18. Trees at Fire Stations 8 and 4 were inventoried.