

## **URBAN FORESTRY TREE COMMITTEE OF THE SPOKANE PARK BOARD**

**November 11, 2009**

The Urban Forestry Tree Committee of the Spokane Park Board met November 11, 2009 at 7:00 a.m. in the Manito Park Meeting Room. Members present: Elizabeth Schoedel, Melissa Burt, Kim Morse, Phillip Lindstrom, Kimberly Morse and CAC representative Angel Spell. Also present: Leroy Eadie Acting Parks and Recreation Director, Steve Nittolo Horticulture Supervisor and Janis Saiki.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m., by UFTC Chairman, Elizabeth Schoedel.

The UFTC minutes from the previous meeting of October 7, 2009 were approved.

### **Major topics discussed:**

There was dialogue about the Heritage Tree Ordinance and how to proceed with the tree nominations. A photograph and location map of the two trees nominated will be provided so the UFTC can visit each nominated tree and vote on their registration at the next meeting.

Revisions of Commercial Tree Ordinance were discussed. Liability insurance will be established and will exceed state minimum requirements. The ordinance has been revised to change the license administrator from police chief to Director of Taxes and Licences. A commercial tree license will be required only for work on public trees not on private trees. The fee will be \$45.00, of which a percentage will go to the Urban Forestry Program for a specific use. It was decided the violation penalties would be simplified to 4 steps; warning with damage restitution, fines, revoking license for up to a year, and revoking license permanently, giving the director discretion with each step.

**Other Business:**

Mike Taylor, Director of Engineering, has scheduled a workshop for December 16, 2009 from 8:30-11:30 in the council chambers, to discuss the value, benefits, biological structure, and good arboriculture practices relating to trees. This workshop is open to the public and was organized for those people making decisions on tree issues.

Phil Lindstrom talked about the trees being involved in the Lincoln Street Project.

Angel Spell gave an update on the CAC. The Street Tree Task Force will have regular meetings the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month. Mike Taylor; Director of Engineering, Leroy Eadie; Director of Parks and Recreation, and Joanne Wright; Director of Planning will be part of this group. The CAC will prioritize their goals, adopt new by-laws and vote on new officers at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

The next Urban Forestry Tree Committee meeting is December 9, 2009.