

## TALENT URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 10 2024

Call to order 6:34 pm

Members present: J Clark, J Hardgrove, J Ellen, P Collins, E Wing

Council Liaison: D Collay

Staff: absent

Community Members: John Mackin, Mike Oxendine

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Healthy mature Blue Spruce street tree cut down on Lani Way. Code complaint lodged by Wing.
2. Collins can no longer be secretary. Wing will do. **MOTION:** Hardgrove moved that Wing take over as secretary. Clark seconds. All approve. No discussion.
3. TUFC accepts Derek Volkart's resignation. Will begin process to recruit for new member.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. John notes that the recent Arbor Day planting project was very fun; he is glad to be at today's meeting.
2. Oxendine has been contracted with the Phoenix Talent school district to represent them for an interpretive riparian educational program. Potentially a TUFC representative could help. Visioning meeting happening soon.
3. Oxendine will be holding event in Medford on July 26 on management of urban trees. Suggests that TUFC presence would be good to help with community engagement.
4. Oxendine recommends the new book The Nature of Our Cities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from May 22 2024. Wing moves to approve, Ellen seconds. All approve, no discussion.

### CURRENT PROJECTS

1. STREET TREE LIST
  - a. City Planner/Flores to ensure that up-to-date street tree list is on new city website.
  - b. Public has requested a list of trees to use as evergreen privacy screens. We will work up a list that is separate from the street tree list.
  - c. Collins will work on a final master list of street trees for us to review and approve.

- d. Will work on brochure tree selections once master list is done.
- e. Oxendine recommends we look at the formatting of Eugene's street tree list. Selected information in one place (user friendly), with complete information on spreadsheet on website.

## 2. TREE INVENTORY

Per Oxendine, this is mostly done. Some areas of Talent Ave, Chuck Roberts Park, still need to be done. Decide to complete this as a work party, in September.

Note: to be counted as a street tree, more than half of the trunk of the tree needs to be in the city right-of-way.

## 3. ONE HUNDRED TREES GRANT UPDATE

Contract does not say that Plant Oregon is responsible for watering trees planted.

## 4. CITY TREE REMOVAL POLICY.

We wish to create a formal policy around this issue. Wing will email Brittany Oxford of ODF to look at the issue and let us know how other cities address this. Do they keep planting sites after tree removal, etc. We would like to codify this in the Master Plan.

## 5. CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECT

Discuss letter from Oxendine to city requesting that OURCF be the fiscal sponsor, responsible for grants. The city would be a partner with respect to volunteers and goodwill, TUFCA to also be a named sponsor, and the project to be run by professional researcher Geoffrey Donovan. Oxendine will double check with Donovan about doing this.

Discuss issue of Milliman saying that we could not place air sensors on city property. Milliman gave form to Collay for private landowners to fill out before placement of sensors.

City states that no non-committee members may be on subcommittees.

Collay and Oxendine will work on revised letter to council about this.

**MOTION:** Wing moves to recommend to have OURCF take over financial responsibility for the citizen science project, and to authorize Collay to draft a proposed letter of support for the grant proposal for this project by OURCF. Ellen seconds. All agree. No discussion.

**MOTION:** Clark moves to recommend that council approve the placement of air quality sensors on city property. Hardgrove seconds. All agree. No discussion.

## 6. MASTER PLAN

We are waiting for feedback from ODF, who will be helping.

We need people to find photos that would be good to include in master plan and download them to folder in Google docs.

## 7. TREE CODE UPDATE

Question: can the city hire a pertinent professional to help with the part of the code that deals with trees? There has been no movement on this since the last meeting. RVCOG has been contracted to do the code work. [Oxendine notes that there are no protections for trees on the county level].

Can there be a grant to hire a specialist? Who interfaces with RVCOG, and what does it look like?

Planet Geo is experienced at this work and has grant money available, but must be requested within the month. We would like RVCOG to apply for this grant to work on titles 17 and 18, and take some of the work off the city's plate. Collay will discuss with Milliman.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Those who are watering park trees need to sign waiver and wear vest.
2. Public Works has badly damaged every tree in the Kamerin Springs Park wetland area with weed whackers. We need to put up plant guards immediately. It is Plant Oregon's responsibility to care for this area. They will need to replace all dying trees this winter.

## COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

1. Gaoying is in charge of the OWEB grant.
2. Gaoying will be coming to every other TUFC meeting as our staff liaison.
3. Flood plain restoration by the Greenway will be starting next week; Greenway will be closed off and on.

## AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Tree nursery

Update on master plan

Update on codes – RVCOG get grant from Planet Geo?

Update on citizen science program

New meeting space that is more workable

More tree vouchers from Pacific Power – suggest recommendation to council that TUFC have authority. Or review, how vouchers and mitigation money is used.

Schedule for attending council meetings

Street tree list

Evergreen screen list

Tree selections for brochure

New member?

Update of resolution of multiple code compliance submissions for tree removals

Chair Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Spivey", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.