



Tree Board

~ Meeting Minutes ~



Wednesday, March 19, 2014 • 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilmember Pam Fernald; Sean Clark, Public Works Maintenance Supervisor; Al Torrico, Senior Planner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Citizen Representative vacant position; Joe Scorcio, CED Director (guest)

The current vacancy is being advertised.

STAFF COORDINATOR: Roger Chouinard, Parks Operations Manager

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes dated February 6, 2013 were approved as written.

A request was made to schedule more meetings. Roger asked if the day of week and time works for the Board Members. They all agreed to the day and time.

Old Business:

- Tree planting of smaller caliper trees for future development. - It was determined that this would move to the City now purchasing all trees to Planning Department requirements. Al added that using smaller caliper trees did decrease costs but would also increase the grow-in periods and wouldn't work in some areas. Sean added that right-of-way trees had to be a certain height for branches to meet the sidewalk and traffic clearance.
- Future grant application opportunities, tree inventory. - Agreed to leave this as a placeholder and continue to look for creative ways of funding future inventories.
- Start application process for KCD (King Conservation District) dollars for 2013. - Roger gave an update on the details for this grant opportunity. This item moved to be discussed later in 2014.
- Ongoing labor grants are available for removal of invasive plants in the urban forest. - Roger stated that in 2013 we were awarded a grant and invasive plants were removed from an area across from the Maintenance Facility.
- Audubon Society - Ivy removal project at North SeaTac Park. - This event is for removing invasive plants in North SeaTac Park south. Councilmember Fernald asked to be included in the project.

New Business

- Tree City application and Growth Award status. - Roger reported that the Department of Natural Resources had earlier informed him all was in good order to receive Tree City status and Growth Award for 2014.

- 2014 Arbor Day Event, Wednesday, April 23, 10:00 a.m.
 - Plant eight Bowhall Maple trees at Angle Lake Park in lower meadow to complete that area. Trees will be planted by a crew from our Community Forestry group and possibly students from Tyee Educational Complex.
 - Department of Natural Resources representative will present our 5th Tree City USA and our 3rd Tree City Growth Award as part of the Arbor Day event.
- The City applied for and received a second Community Forestry Grant for 2014 for urban forest renovation. The crew will remove invasive plants for the Hughes Property. Work is scheduled to begin in early April.
- Discussed the Washington Native Plant Society. Washington Native Plant Society applied on the City's behalf for King Conservation District funds for funds to install native plants in North SeaTac Park. The grant was successful and we are waiting details.
- Al asked for a little history of SeaTac being a Tree City. Councilmember Fernald explained her interest and involvement and Roger added the value and importance of being one of now 83 Tree Cities in Washington State.
- Al talked about some possible funding for the urban forest from another development. Roger and Sean expressed interest. Roger said he had set up a BARS account for all tree related expenses that this money could be placed into for accounting purposes.
- Discussed meeting quarterly. Roger agreed to send out calendar appointments to schedule future meetings.
- Discussed homelessness in our urban forest areas. Roger explained our approach and abatement methods.
- Discussed setting up a couple of landscape professionals to meet with the Tree Board to create a suggested street tree and public space tree list and criteria.
- Roger mentioned that Mayor Mia Gregerson asked for the Tree Board to give a report on its activities to the City Council.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.