



Citizen Advisory Committee  
To Spokane Urban Forestry Tree Committee

MEETING MINUTES

August 30, 2011

3:00 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:10pm by Chairperson, Garth Davis.

**ROLL CALL**

- Members present: Garth Davis, Cindy Deffe, Ben Kappen, Larry Lee, Ed Lester, and Marilyn Lloyd.
- Also present: Angel Spell, Beth Mort, Johnna Woodruff, Leroy Eadie and Cheryl Miller (Urban Forestry Program and Parks Administration); Nancy MacKerrow (The Susie Forest); Carrie Andersen (Citizen) and, Jim Santorsola and Ken Van Voorhis (Park Board).

**CEREMONIES, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- Minutes of the August 2, 2011, UFCAC meeting – Cindy Deffe noted a correction under Citizen Comments of ‘tree planting season’ not ‘tree planning season’. Ben Kappen motioned to accept the minutes as corrected. Cindy Deffe seconded. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Nancy MacKerrow reported she is encouraging Spokane Preservation Advocates to include tree planting in some way at their convention being held next year. She is also working on tree plantings in Pittsburg, Hartford, Washington DC, and five (5) in Tide Water, VA.

**REPORTS**

- a. Education and Volunteer Recruitment Subcommittee – Cindy reported highlights of the August 30, 2011, meeting were:
  1. Work is wrapping up on the tree benefits slogans. Beth will be sending out a summary to the committee.
  2. There is a DNR grant opportunity coming up this fall which would support distribution of the benefits campaign information.
  3. Looking at how much trees are worth, both for replacement costs and cost savings. Trees in the Logan Neighborhood have been reviewed showing \$150,000 of annual benefits from 3500 trees. How to release the information is being considered.
  4. Materials are being developed for distribution at the Fall Leaf Festival booth on October 15<sup>th</sup>.
  5. Beth is working on a newsletter.
  6. Consideration is being given to having a booth at the Main Street Fair on September 10<sup>th</sup>, and perhaps at the Lower Southhill Block Party and Sustainable September.
  7. Dan Harris, from Gonzaga University, is looking for student volunteer opportunities.
  8. Marilyn will notify committee members of the next meeting date, time and location.



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- b. Street Tree Subcommittee – Angel reported, in Julie’s absence, that the current focus has been on street sign visibility and where trees need to be located to maintain safe visibility of signs. After much discussion and consultation with Legal, the subcommittee concluded the preferred policy is ‘the sign must be visible and 20 – 30 feet from any tree’. Julie will provide the policy language at a future meeting.
- c. Downtown Street Trees – No report was given as Andrew Rolwes as absent.
- d. Staff report – Angel Spell provided a written report. Highlighted topics include:
  1. The 2012 Budget proposal is with the staff finance department. It looks to be on track. The bottom line number is approximately \$485,000. It has to proceed through Park Board Committees. The October Park Board meeting is when final vote occurs.
  2. NeighborWoods Educational Series is set. Details of the four workshops are on the website and on-line registration is available.
  3. Staff attended the James Urban workshop ‘Up By the Roots’ earlier this month.
  4. Staff is scheduled to attend the PNWSA Training Conference in October.
  5. The Interlocal Agreement with Geiger Corrections has been signed. The nursery is planned to be up and running this fall.
  6. Operationally this month there were: no plantings; 22 trees pruned at various locations; 18 acres of fuels reduction/thinning work at Five Mile Water Tank; 10 additional trees removed at various locations; processed 27 permits representing 161 trees; and consulted on a few different projects including installation of 3 steel containers around trees near 29<sup>th</sup> and Grand Blvd.
- e. Conservation Area Management Plans – Garth provided an oral report.
  1. Ed Miles, Garth, Ben and Eric Showquist are working on this new subcommittee which is focused on developing stewardship plans for natural areas.
  2. Eric needs to submit a Letter of Interest to Leroy and a copy to Garth, as he is replacing Chris Hilgert.
  3. Barry Moses, of the Spokane Tribe, was recommended as a possible volunteer for the Subcommittee.
  4. Beth Mort asked to be included.
  5. The Subcommittee is starting with Hamblen.
  6. A different kind of stewardship plan is necessary for Drumheller Springs because of great interest in the native food plants that grow there.
  7. Parks Department or Urban Forestry goals are needed to provide direction. Garth will work on goal language to submit to the Land Committee for approval.
  8. In the future the subcommittee will be referred to as ‘Conservation Area Stewardship Plans’.
  9. The next meeting date, time and location are not yet determined.
- f. Recommended Street Tree List – Garth provided an oral report.
  1. Very vague feedback has been received. Direction is needed for how to proceed.
  2. It was determined that reviewing species by species is necessary. The desired initial outcome of the subcommittee is an updated street tree list completed by January, 2012. Additional features may be developed and included later.
  3. Suggested subcommittee members are Garth, Cindy, Ed Lester, Ben, and Craig Anderson. A nurseryman is desired and other interested individuals would be welcome.



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### **OLD BUSINESS** – None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Member recruitment – We are short representatives from Community Assembly and Historic Preservation (one from each group).
- b. Fall Leaf Festival is October 15<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 2 pm at Finch Arboretum. Anyone interested in helping to staff the booth needs to contact Marilyn.
- c. Tree Board Website <http://www.treeboardu.org/> gives good information regarding the duties of tree committees in other locations. Ours operates a bit differently, but it is still good information.
- d. Questions regarding the tree replacement on the Nevada project for the Avista replacement project were asked. Jeff would know the answers.
- e. The November meeting will include a potluck party afterwards.
- f. Marilyn joined the Conservators of Finch Arboretum. The first open house is September 20<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:30pm, featuring Ed Lester with a presentation on tree history of the Arboretum. No walking tour is planned.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm

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Garth Davis, Chair