



Committee Members:

Chairperson - Van Voorhis, Ken x
Burt, Melissa _
Davis, Garth x
Lindstrom, Phil _
Wright, Chris x
Alternate – Cameron, Randy _
Alternate – Traver, Susan _

Also Present: Park Board – Ross Kelley; Staff – Cheryl Miller, Angel Spell;
CAC Member – Marilyn Lloyd, Ed Miles; and Citizen – Nancy MacKerrow.

**Urban Forestry Tree Committee of the Spokane Park Board
July 5, 2011, 4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Willow Room, Woodland Center
John A. Finch Arboretum
Angel Spell, Urban Forester**

Summary

- Staff Recommendation to approve purchase of compact track loader or equivalent equipment was discussed and approved to go to Park Board.
- A Draft Memorandum of Understanding with The Lands Council was reviewed.
- Urban Forestry Staff Report – A written report was provided. A question and answer session followed.
- Citizen Advisory Committee Report highlights were:
 - Forming of a new subcommittee to update the Approved Street Tree List;
 - Forming of a new subcommittee to address issues regarding conservation properties within the Parks system; and
 - Incorporating the duties of a grant subcommittee into the Education and Volunteer Recruitment Subcommittee

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Chairperson, Ken Van Voorhis.

Action Items:

1. Staff Recommendation: Approve purchase of equipment: Kubota SVL75WC Compact Track Loader or equivalent. Fleet Services will negotiate best price, product, and vendor. Estimated cost is not to exceed \$52,000.00, including tax. Requested information covering: rates to rent comparable equipment as needed; opportunities for shared use of equipment; and expected work volume for the equipment was provided and discussed. It was noted that the requested information for opportunities for shared use was actually to focus on sharing existing Department equipment, not how newly purchased equipment could be shared. The inventory of existing Department equipment that is being compiled for the Finance Committee should also prove useful as the purchase of new equipment is considered for Urban Forestry purposes.

Motion #1: Chris Wright moved to approve for discussion purposes.

Garth Davis seconded.

Motion passed.

Discussion Items:

1. Draft Memorandum of Understanding with The Lands Council.

The Lands Council has agreed to perform a variety of work to benefit Urban Forestry especially in the areas of education; volunteer recruitment engagement; advocacy; administering the NeighborWoods Program; functioning as a 501(c) (3) financial pass through; to pursue grant opportunities and accept donations on behalf of Urban Forestry; and manage the funds. Entering into a MOU with TLC commits both parties to coordinate and organize mutual goals and efforts to enhance the urban forest canopy. Angel will ask City Legal if the inclusion of the attorney fee clause (sections 10 and 11) is appropriate in this type of arrangement. A request was also made to clarify the basis of the fee. Before finalizing this MOU a meeting with Toni, of the Parks Foundation, is necessary to advise them of the change.

Standing Report items:

1. Urban Forestry Staff Report - Angel provided a written report. The ensuing question and answer session focused on the feedback received from City Council Members regarding the request that a portion of the storm water utility fee be used for support of Urban Forestry. The responses indicate that Council Members believe now is not the time to pursue this request. Continued additional information provided over time to Council Members will be necessary in order to obtain their support.

2. Citizen Advisory Committee Report - Garth Davis reported three highlights:
 - a. Forming a new subcommittee to select the trees for the Approved Street Tree List.
 - b. Forming a new subcommittee to address issues pertaining to conservation properties within the Parks system.
 - c. Incorporating the duties of a Grants Subcommittee into the Education and Volunteer Recruitment Subcommittee.

Other Business:

1. Status of the nursery at Geiger Corrections.

The MOU is in their hands. Geiger will provide labor and land for an Urban Forestry nursery. Urban Forestry staff will provide Geiger Correction inmates with training on a seasonal basis. There are many nursery management options available.

Meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Next regularly scheduled meeting is August 2, 2011, at 4:15 p.m. in the Woodland Center at Finch Arboretum.