

# URBAN FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Date:	8-19-2024
Time:	4:30 – 6:30 pm
Place:	Virtual Zoom Meeting
Attending:	<b>UFS:</b> Chair Christine Johnson, Vice-Chair Thea Hayes, Jim Buck, Steve Stevens, Keith Warren <b>Staff:</b> Jim Wheeler, Tina Núñez-Osterink <b>PC Liaison:</b> Greg Schroeder <b>Council Liaison:</b> Jerry Hinton <b>Guests:</b> Janet Unruh, John Hartsock
Absent	

Agenda Item #1 – Public Comments	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No public comments.</li> </ul>
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 15, 2024 – amend the minutes to reflect that Nic Niggemeyer was frustrated that the presenters of the Shaul property work had left before he had the opportunity to speak.</li> <li>May 20, 2024</li> <li>July 29, 2024</li> </ul>
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 15, 2024, Approved 5-0, as amended.</li> <li>May 20, 2024, Approved 5-0</li> <li>July 29, 2024, Approved 5-0</li> </ul>
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make appropriate amendment to April 15, 2024, minutes before finalizing.</li> </ul>

Agenda Item #3 – Parks Master Plan Presentation	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by Tina Núñez-Osterink included:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parks walkability map</li> <li>Gresham Park 2035 Community Engagement</li> <li>Parks Task Force 2024-25 Meetings                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion about the formation of the Task Force</li> </ul> </li> <li>Technical Analysis (consultant led)</li> <li>System Evaluation</li> </ul> </li> <li>Discussion:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarification of Gresham demographics relative to national numbers.</li> <li>Consider interactive equipment at parks that are usable across many age levels.</li> <li>Suggestion for additional restrooms and signage to amenities along Springwater trail.</li> <li>Sidewalks needed in some areas to make parks accessible by foot.</li> <li>The Climate Action Plan will be reflected in the Parks Master Plan as the Parks</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>Master Plan will be a “systems” plan akin to other public infrastructure and will look at parks in the context of system-wide work, including the Climate Action Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consideration of purchase of open space through the Parks Plan will need be evaluated through a gap analysis (e.g., gaps in proximity to park facilities).</li> <li>○ Parks are good for native trees (vs. streets and development landscaping).</li> <li>○ Work is being done to include natural spaces and areas as a part of the mapping system.</li> <li>○ Signage (directions, plant species, dangers, wildlife, etc.) are very helpful related to directions to facilities and open space education.</li> </ul>
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda Item #4 – Shaull Woods Update</b>	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DES Natural Resources had some difficulties securing contracts but has now done so (Northwest Natural Resource Group – NNRG). So far, 2 contracts have been secured and outreach with schools has occurred. NNRG conducted its first site visit last week.</li> <li>• Information related to the scope of the NNRG contract for Shall Woods was not available for this meeting.</li> </ul>
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UFS will direct more specific questions for Natural Resources to hopefully answer during their presentation at the September meeting.</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda Item #5 – Tree Code Update</b>	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Comp Planning Team has focused on community engagement at community events across the city with the goal of understanding the community’s vision for Gresham’s trees.</li> <li>• As part of the summer outreach, the Community Goals and Priorities Survey is now live on Engage Gresham (<a href="https://engagegresham.org/gresham-tree-code">https://engagegresham.org/gresham-tree-code</a>) and will be up through at least the end of August.</li> <li>• The Comp Planning Team is currently working on an RFP for technical assistance from a municipal arborist for development of code update alternatives, review of draft code language, and creation of an urban tree guidebook (this will be the right tree right place technical tree manual) with updated approved tree lists.</li> <li>• Continued collaboration with the UFS is anticipated to include work sessions at each project phase (dates TBD), plus additional work sessions as needed for specific project components such as the tree guidebook etc.</li> </ul>
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda Item #6 – General Update</b>	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gradin Sports Park Tree Planting</b> UFS is expecting to look at the draft planting plan, specifically for the arboretum part of the park. The current planting plan is part of building permit number BLDC 23-06447.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>UFS Work Plan Approval</b> City Council gave it their informal approval in July, and it is scheduled to be formally approved at the 8/20/24 Council Business Meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Significant Tree De-Listing Process</b> A Type II application will be processed by UDP staff. We will need the “City of Gresham Significant Tree/Grove Survey Form” completed for each of the three trees as part of the de-listing application.</li> <li>• <b>Process for Tree Code Violations Identified by UFS</b> The UFS will need to report Tree Code violations through the “My Gresham” reporting page on the City’s website (<a href="https://www.greshamoregon.gov/services/report-an-issue/mygresham/">https://www.greshamoregon.gov/services/report-an-issue/mygresham/</a>).</li> <li>• <b>Street Tree Planting – Code Project Update</b> What was presented to the City Council in July are some quick Code changes, that are not larger policy issues and, in part, are designed to address the lack of street trees under the current Development Code for trees. At this point, these are ideas, not proposed Code language, and have been generated through multiple staff meetings over the past year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimizing conflicts with driveways and sewers</li> <li>▪ Requiring alleys, where possible, before “fee-in-lieu-of” street trees (last option, not first)</li> <li>▪ Requiring wider planter strips (10 feet)</li> </ul> Discussions by the UFS was the genesis of this effort. </li> <li>• <b>Urban Forestry grant opportunity</b> Bee City USA as an Urban Forestry grant opportunity but the grant application must be submitted by August 30, 2024. Information will be forwarded to the Chair.</li> </ul>
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda Item #7 – Other Business</b>	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Emerald Ash Borer</b> Found in Clackamas County – will need to be addressed in the next Recommended Tree List</li> <li>• Question on whether attendees can see the chat function on Zoom meetings. Suggestion to add chat category as an addendum to the minutes.</li> <li>• Question about remaining single tree being removed in Butler Estates.</li> <li>• Discussion around recruitment for UFS. Suggestion to give leeway on barriers to joining the subcommittee, i.e. a certain proportion having a professional background.</li> <li>• After participating in a cemetery tour with the Gresham Historical Society, Chair Johnson posed another cemetery tour with significant trees as the focus, led in partnership between the Gresham Historical Society and the UFS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around trees within these cemeteries and identification.</li> <li>• Signage is worn or damaged and need replacing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jim to follow up on Zoom chat function.</li> <li>• Jim to follow up about tree removal in Butler Estates.</li> <li>• Jim to follow up about recruitment process.</li> <li>• Jim to find out if the City could source funding for tree signage replacement.</li> </ul>
Next Meeting:	September 16, 2024, at 4:30 PM remotely via Zoom
Adjournment:	6:27 pm

