CITY OF GRESHAM

URBAN FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Date:	10-21-2024
Time:	4:35 – 6:08 pm
Place:	Virtual Zoom Meeting
Attending:	UFS: Chair Christine Johnson, Vice-Chair Thea Hayes (4:45), Keith Warren, Jim Buck, Steve Stevens (until 5:24) Staff: Jim Wheeler PC Liaison: Greg Schroeder Council Liaison: Jerry Hinton Guests:
Absent	UFS:

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments		
Discussion:	 Jim Buck – Would like to have the UFS get staff to provide understanding regarding a "statute of limitations" on enforcement of tree topping. Does the city have liability with lack of enforcement? 	
Decisions:	• N/A	
Action:	• N/A	

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Meeting Minutes	
Discussion:	 August 2024 September 2024
Decisions:	 Approval (no changes) August 2024 (4-0) September 2024 (4-0)
Action:	• N/A

Agenda Item #4 – Public Outreach		
Discussion:	 Cemetery Tour in Partnership with the Gresham Historical Society Two people attended – not enough time for proper outreach. A map of the tour at the Gresham Pioneer and White Birch Cemeteries was shown and discussed. Gresham Historical Society carries information related to the cemeteries and not Metro (current owner/operator). Good "dry run" for giving tours, estimating time and information. 	
	• EAB/MOB public outreach – Neighborhood Coalition meeting speaker? Mediterranean Oak Borer has been in Wilsonville for about a year and in some other Clackamas County communities. Mostly affecting older, stressed Oregon White Oak. Reporting to Oregon Invasive Species Hotline. Maybe outreach efforts with the city Parks department. No treatment known at this time. Neighborhood Coalition has agenda openings in February and March. Query to see if there are any mature	

Oregon White Oak within the Gresham area.
Christine is to gather information for the public regarding the Bronze Birch Borer, Emerald Ash Borer, and Mediterranean Oak Borer, and have Jim Wheeler have the Parks department review it, and potentially get it posted on the UFS webpage.
Neighborhood Tree Plans
 Start with Rockwood and attend the Rockwood Neighborhood Association to form the Plan. Goal setting? Finding planting partners? Steve Stevens is the Rockwood Neighborhood tree plan coordinator (from the NA side). Preservation of trees is the #1 priority, then focus on missing canopy areas and median street trees in key areas (e.g., 181st, Stark). Rockwood NA is ready to generate more community involvement and input. Is there information regarding 3-foot or wider planter strips where there are street trees missing? If so, prioritize planting, maybe through Friends of Trees. Envisioning a mini-Urban Forestry Plan, no more than 20 pages long. Will need to have the residents generate the plan with the assistance of the UFS. Would like to have the City offer a plan (maybe the Green Infrastructure Plan Grant opportunity – funded through the State). The group would like to know where the trees will be planted from the Friends of Trees grant.
• N/A
 Christine to summarize information on Bronze Birch Borer, Emeral Ash Borer, and Mediterranean Oak Borer for Jim to then pass along to parks for review. Jim Buck to check with Neighborhood Coalition on agenda openings for a UFS presentation.
 Christine to talk with the Rockwood Neighborhood Association to start the discussion around a Neighborhood Tree Plan.

Agenda Item #5 – Arbor Day	
Discussion:	 February 8th is a potential event date for celebrating Arbor Day Dexter McCartey student tree planting (school partner) as an option The Douglas Fir "cookie" could be on display (Mike Wallace in Natural Resources with the City is the contact person) Potentially contact the library to feature arbor books during the month of April Significant Tree signage (April)? Partner with Friends of Trees planting for an Arbor Day event in February/March? Pruning workshop in April?
Decisions:	• N/A
Action:	• N/A

Agenda Item #6 – General Update (Jim Wheeler)	
Discussion:	 UFS Education Workshop Rental Fee Funding There is currently no funding "earmarked" for the UFS. There are intermittent, on-going conversations between different city departments regarding funding for the UFS. Are there any general liability insurance requirements that are needed for a UFS education event?

	 It will largely depend upon the event and what activities are planned with that event. In general, the UFS is covered by the City's general liability insurance. Discussion about the Gradin Sports Park Arboretum. A link to the Tyler Energov Permitting System for this project will be sent to the committee. Tagging the trees – suggesting one per tree on a pedestal next to the tree (theft is a problem), using the common and botanical name, the planting date, and the identification number. The UFS is requesting answers on the status of the original plan to have an "arboretum" in Gradin Sports Park.
Decisions:	• N/A
Action:	 Jim Wheeler to provide the Gradin Sports Park permit link and plan sheets for: planting detail, soil management detail (area 1), a planting plan (not including other details).

Agenda Item #7 – Other Business		
Discussion:	• Tree Topping definition in the Development Code is good, but there is a generalized term on the "Tree" webpage that is not consistent. Should have the tree webpage definition match the Development Code definition.	
Decisions:	• N/A	
Action:	• N/A	

*These meeting minutes were approved at the November 18, 2024, Urban Forestry Subcommittee meeting.