



Tree Committee Meeting of the City of Spokane Park Board

Tuesday, September 1, 2015, 4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Willow Room, Woodland Center
John A. Finch Arboretum
Angel Spell – Urban Forester

Committee Members:

X Pendergraft, Lauren – Chairperson
A Potratz, Preston
X Gifford, Guy
X Davis, Garth
X Cash, Kevin

Park Board:

VanVoorhis, Ken

Parks Staff:

Eadie, Leroy
Spell, Angel

Guest(s):

Nancy MacKerrow

Summary

- Recommendations for approval to purchase a Versalift aerial lift in the amount of \$84,123.07, and the Freightliner M2-106 truck chassis for the aerial lift in the amount of \$80,591.99, were moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- Angel presented a draft document outline for the Urban Forestry Management Plan Framework to the committee, asking them for their input, and thanking them for responding to the stakeholder interview questions.
- Angel informed members there were no changes to the 2016 Budget Update since the last time it was presented.
- The July and August Staff Report was given, updating the committee with information that included permits issued, participation in City projects, Urban Forestry staff training, and construction at Finch Arboretum.
- Guy Gifford informed the group of items covered in the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting.
- Research and Data Reports were not available.
- July's Urban Forestry Financial Report was reviewed and discussed by the committee.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:17 p.m. by Chairperson, Lauren Pendergraft.

Action Items:

1. Recommendation for approval to purchase a Versalift aerial lift in the amount of \$84,123.07 was moved by Kevin Cash and seconded by Garth Davis; the motion was unanimously passed.
2. Recommendation for approval to purchase a Freightliner M2-106 truck chassis for the aerial lift in the amount of \$80,591.99 was moved by Kevin Cash and seconded by Garth Davis, the motion was unanimously passed.

Discussion Items:

1. Angel opened discussion regarding the UF Management Plan Framework:
 - a. Stakeholder interview questions – Angel informed members there is still time to respond to these questions (through next week), and expressed her appreciation for those who have already participated.
 - b. Comments on draft UFMP document outline - Angel distributed the outline to the members and asked for feedback that she could then forward to the Consultant, who is looking for any adjustments that may need to be made to the framework of this document.

A considerable discussion followed and included the suggestion of including input from other City departments that interact with Urban Forestry.

2. 2016 Budget Update contained no changes for Urban Forestry from the last 2016 Budget Update.
3. Staff Report for July and August
Angel delivered information regarding the last two month's activities and training of Urban Forestry Staff, Permitting and City project participation, construction projects at Finch Arboretum, and more.

Standing Report Items:

1. Citizen Advisory Committee Report
Guy Gifford shared content of the CAC meeting, including future plantings, scheduled field trips, and input from its members regarding the UF Management Plan.
2. Research and Data Reports – no reports were available.
3. Urban Forestry Financial Report for July
Angel and attendees reviewed and discussed the July Financial Report, noting revenue from other City departments and that slight revisions to the report format will be made in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is September 29, 2015, 4:15 p.m., at Finch Arboretum in the Woodland Center's Willow Room.



YTD REPORT – August 31, 2015

Field Operations

1. Planting: 89
2. Pruning: 364 trees
 - a. Finch, Manito, Byrne, Indian Canyon GC, Corbin Park, Comstock, Mission, Cannon Hill, Polly Judd, Riverfront, Friendship, Ruth Park and others
 - b. Plus 3 acres of forest health pruning (Indian Canyon GC)
3. Removal: 723 trees
 - a. Indian Canyon GC thinning of invasive maples/cottonwood/linden (132)
 - b. Finch invasive species (51)
 - c. Fish Lake Trail herbicide damage (400)
 - d. Audubon, Corbin, Polly Judd, Riverfront, Manito, Cannon Hill, Friendship, Westgate, Riverfront, Cowley Park and others
 - e. Plus 1.5 acres of forest health thinning (Camp Sekani and Finch Arboretum)

Permitting & Plan Review

4. 195 permits processed representing 2099 trees
5. 37 courtesy and violation notices to property owners
6. Plan review and comment – (28)
Washington Cracker, Washington Federal, Father Bach, VOA Phase 2, Alcobra Metals, LHM Service, University Apts, Yokes Fresh Market, Spokane Falls & Division St, Larry Miller, Able Label, LHM Lexus, Big Badness, Franklin Park Pavement Rehab, Homestead McCarroll's Apts, Spokane River Properties, Starbucks Greene St., Lexus Display Lot, Phase 4 Playfair, EVCO Inc., Peppertree Plaza, VFW, RPWRF 1 & 2, WSU Clinic, Natural Grocers, McDonalds, Matilda Bldg, Summit Church

Administration

7. Andy Thew was selected to fill the vacant full time permanent Arborist position. (Dec 2014)
8. Kay Bisaro was selected as the new Clerk II serving UF (80%), Rec (10%), and Golf (10%). (Jan)
9. Provided review and comment of City Design Standard revisions for Comp Plan update. (Feb)
10. Utility Bill Donation option implemented for on-line payments. (Mar)
11. Presentation to Business & Development Services staff re: proper planting and permitting (Apr 15)
12. Began process for purchasing a new bucket truck (Jun)
13. 6-year Capital Plan revisions and update (Jun)
14. Purchased new chipper Vermeer BC-1000XL (July)
15. Completed participation on NUCFAC Ten-Year Action Plan Strategic Advisory Team with a draft ready for submission to the council. (Aug 27)

Finch Arboretum

16. Arbor Day Celebration – April 25
17. Presented 11 public education workshops:
 - a. Letting Kids be Kids: Nature-Based play and Learning Landscapes for Healthy Childhoods (Jan 31)
 - b. Designing Women: Landscape Design Essentials (Jan 31)
 - c. Chainsaw Safety & Maintenance (Feb 21)
 - d. Landscape Restoration and Low Impact Development for Better Water Quality (Mar 20)
 - e. Landscaping with Natives: Trees, Shrubs, Flowers, and Grasses (Mar 27)
 - f. Spokane's Edible Forest (Apr 11)

- g. Tree Tours of Finch Arboretum (Apr 25)
 - h. Creating Wildlife Habitat in your Backyard (May 8)
 - i. Urban Trees and Nature for a Better Human Habitat: Exploring the Research Evidence (May 9)
 - j. Healing Gardens: Their Purpose & Design (May 16)
 - k. Guidelines for Identifying Local Mushrooms (May 22)
18. Construction start (Halme) on Finch Arboretum Low Impact Development project (Aug 31)

Staff Development & Training

- 19. WSDA Pesticide License – Jeff Perry, Andy Thew, Kacey Burke, Johnna Woodruff. (Feb 17-18)
- 20. Turf, Tree, and Landscape Conference – Matt Stewart, Alex Moe, Amber Ramirez. (Feb 19)
- 21. Municipal Forestry Institute, Society of Municipal Arborists – Angel Spell. (Feb 22-27)
- 22. CDL training and certification – Andy Thew (Apr 6 – May 5)
- 23. First Aid/CPR for all staff (Apr 14)
- 24. Bare Root Tree Transplanting – Melissa Burt & Matt Stewart (Apr 16)
- 25. Trees and the Law - Angel Spell, Melissa Burt, Jeff Perry (May 4)
- 26. Tree School – Angel Spell, Jeff Perry, Melissa Burt, Alex Moe, Andy Thew, & Nic Krell (Aug 15)
- 27. Amber Ramirez became an ISA Certified Arborist (Aug 31)

Grant Projects

- 28. Finch LID – Liv Haselbach of WSU re: porous pavement monitoring sensor installation (July 15)
- 29. UF Management Plan – Kickoff Meeting with contractor Davey Resource Group (July 28)
- 30. Submitted grant application for American Forests Community ReLeaf (Aug 21)
- 31. Construction start (Halme) on Finch Arboretum Low Impact Development project (Aug 31)

City Projects

- 32. Consultation, Permitting, and Contracting tree protection on City construction projects (27) – CSO 6 Phase 1 & 2 (2010044/075), CSO 20 (2013042), Monroe St 8th to Main (2012115), High Drive Phase 2 (2014056), Havana St (2014079), Hartson Ave (2014083), Rebecca St (2014090), 2013 Traffic Calming (2013098/99/100), 2014 Traffic Calming (2014066/067), Arterial Curb Ramps (2015042), 2015 CD Sidewalks (2015041), Panorama Drive (2014075), 2015 Residential Chip Seal (2015043), Indiana Ave Phase 1 (2014134), Rowan Ave Phase 1 (2014135), 1st Ave Erie to Altamont (2014118), 2013 Downtown Pedestrian Improvements (2013156), Wall St Main to Spokane Falls (2015083), Ray St 29th to 17th (2012116), 2015 Residential Grind/Overlay (2015044), Addison Standard (2013162), Union Basin (2013221), Ben Burr Trail (2010091)
- 33. Coordination with Forest Spokane staff for spring planting events.
- 34. Integrated Strategy Studio meetings – projects include: Indiana Ave, Five Mile, Rowan Ave, CSO 33C, 25th & SE Blvd, and Levy projects.
- 35. Coordination with Forest Spokane staff for fall planting events.
- 36. Performed tree removal work for Wall Street project #2015083.

Other Projects

- 37. Coordination with Sister Cities Garden and assistance with tree protection, removals and pruning.
- 38. Meetings with STA to provide review and comment re: new bus stop development policy.
- 39. Working with City Planning staff and GHBA and ESBA to improve street trees in business districts.
- 40. Working with USDA Forest Service entomologists on Walnut Twig Beetle trapping at Cowley Park for their research.
- 41. Pruned trees at Fire Station #1.

Public Outreach & Events

- 42. South Perry Business District (Marshall Powell) re: street tree pruning (Jan 22)
- 43. Browne's Addition Neighborhood Council (Feb 12)
- 44. Cliff Cannon Neighborhood Council re: Greening Grants (Mar 3)
- 45. Proper Tree Pruning presented by Jeff Perry for Friends of Comstock Park (Mar 10)
- 46. Friends of Coeur d'Alene Park (Mar 15)
- 47. Cliff Cannon Neighborhood Council re: proper pruning (Apr 7)
- 48. Mayor's Arbor Day Proclamation and Tree City USA presentation (Apr 24)
- 49. Arbor Day Celebration at John A. Finch Arboretum (Apr 25)
- 50. Tree School Presentations: Jeff Perry re: Design Review & Angel Spell re: Backyard Tree Risk (Aug 15)

Media

- 51. Spokesman-Review 2/5/15 (Mike Prager) – Spokane Area Greening Up
- 52. Spokesman-Review 2/21/15 (Rich Landers) – Another live tree hacked along South Hill bluff trails

Upcoming

- 53. Construction start (AM Landshaper) for Garden Springs Creek Restoration project
- 54. CAC/UFTC regular meeting – September 29th
- 55. Fall Leaf Festival at John A. Finch Arboretum – Oct 24th
- 56. CAC/UFTC field trip – November 3rd, location TBD
- 57. CAC/UFTC regular meeting – December 1st