



**City of Spokane Park Board
Urban Forestry Tree Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, January 3, 2017, 4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Manito Park Meeting Room
1702 South Grand Boulevard, Spokane, Washington
Angel Spell – Urban Forester

Committee Members:

X Pendergraft, Lauren – Chairperson
X Gifford, Guy
X Davis, Garth
A Cash, Kevin
X Chase, Richard

Parks Staff:

Conley, Jason
Dickson, Fianna
Spell, Angel

Guest(s):

Anderson, Carrie

SUMMARY

- Angel presented and distributed information pertaining to the 13 SpoCanopy projects funded through an interdepartmental agreement with the Utilities Division in the amount of \$100,000. These projects involved the planting of 45 trees, pruning 196, removing 17, 17 other treatments, a planting plan for 2017, and an update of the public tree list.
- For preparation purposes, documents were discussed regarding a possible appeal of Urban Forestry's denial for removal of a Ponderosa Pine on South Hatch Street.
- Angel reviewed discussion items from the December 29th UFTC Special meeting pertaining to 1) clarifying the definition of "public right-of-way", "street tree" and "public tree" as listed in Spokane Municipal Code, and 2) regarding the permit appeal process, providing clarity on the procedural agenda of the hearing and criteria for decision making.
- Guy presented topics covered in the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting, which included discussion items from the December 29th UFTC Special meeting and an update on the planning of the Ponderosa Pine Contest.
- The Urban Forestry Financial Report was not available.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:21 p.m. by Chairperson, Lauren Pendergraft. Introductions were made.

Action Items:

None

Information and Discussion Items:

1. 2016 Year-End Report on SpoCanopy Projects Funded by Interdepartmental Agreement Between Utilities Division and Parks and Recreation

Angel presented and distributed information regarding the 2016 SpoCanopy projects that utilized funds of \$100,000.00, contributed to Urban Forestry through an interdepartmental agreement with the Utilities Division. Project selections included enhancement of areas within the city not supported by other funding; business districts and neighborhoods in need of planting and/or maintaining urban canopy, and other city projects.

2. Documents in Appeal of Urban Forestry Decision by Mary Moore, 2718 South Hatch Street

Angel presented information pertaining to a possible upcoming appeal to Urban Forestry's denial for removing a Ponderosa Pine. An appeal letter from the property owner was received and responded to in December 2016. The response letter informed the property owner of an appeal date at the January 31st UFTC meeting. No response from the property owner has yet been received, but Angel wanted the Committee to be informed before the appeal.

3. Discussion of December 29, 2016, Special Meeting Items

a. Definition of "Public Tree" and "Street Tree" per Spokane Municipal Code (12.02.945 and 12.02.952)

Discussion revolved around distinction between terms "public tree" and "street tree". Although municipal code regulates both, proper terminology in current documents will be reviewed. Due to time constraints, the Citizen Advisory Committee had no immediate input, but will discuss again at their next meeting.

b. Guidelines for the Permit Appeal Process (SMC 120.02.920)

Further discussion is also needed for providing more precise guidelines for the appeal process and clarifying the term "public right-of-way". Angel will provide a draft for new guidelines to accompany discussion at the next meeting.

Standing Report Items:

1. Citizen Advisory Committee Report

Guy shared information from the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting, which included an update on plans for the Ponderosa Pine Contest and the initiation of a CAC member giving a short presentation before the Community Assembly, beginning at their February meeting, to demonstrate in various ways the importance of volunteering. Also, Tim will be assisting in providing more historical information linked to Heritage Trees on the Spokane Historical map application.

2. Urban Forestry Financial Report

The financial report was not available.

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 31, 2017, 4:15 p.m., at Finch Arboretum in the Woodland Center's Willow Room.