

**CITY OF COOS BAY
MINUTES OF THE TREE BOARD
January 12, 2015**

Tree Board members present: Chair, Rex Miller; Sarah Crawford; Ariann Lyons and Cora Vandervelden

Tree Board members absent: Jake Robinson and Kim Singh

Staff Present: Randy Dixon, Jon Eck, Pam Patton

Guest Sue Walberg

Approval of Minutes: Rex Miller brought the meeting to order and roll call was taken. Rex asked for a motion to accept the minutes of January 12, 2015 as written.

MOTION: Ariann motioned to accept the minutes as written

SECOND: Sarah

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Ayes unanimous. Motion carried

Citizen Input/Public Comment: Sue Walberg mentioned that she had an interest in our street trees and our tree board. Would like some documentation of how the Tree Board works and what all it entails. Randy asked her for her email and he would make sure to send her the information. Staff provided to Sue the CBMC - Title 8.30, Trees and Tree Board. She would like to be on the notification list of upcoming meetings.

Old Business:

****Update.** Jon gave an update to the 1010 Hemlock request. There would be no tree removal or trimming but the Laurel hedge is on the regular rotation for maintenance. They will cut the hedge back to approximately 6 feet. Randy did say that he had done a property search and those trees are in the right-of-way and will remain. He also reviewed past history of the median between N 10th and Hillside Ct. The original request to remove the trees in the median for a better viewing of the bay was received over a decade ago. The request was denied but later it was found the trees had been core drilled and were all dying. Since the trees had to be removed, the area was replanted with shrub. The City Manager has denied anything to be removed from the median. A brief discussion incurred regarding the right-of-way and responsibility of maintaining.

New Business

Randy gave an overview of the development of a new tree list as part of updating the existing policy. Randy would like to re-develop zones, right-of-ways and parks. He stressed the importance of completing this task in order to move forward in the process of updating policy.

Randy will do a map designating the zones, identifying historic areas/heritage tree. The use of drop down tabs making a useable interface with the City's website and property owner to view our tree list, showing species along with a history and summary. It was mentioned that including photos of existing street trees and new species to help in identification would be helpful. Randy didn't believe that could be possible but will include identification and photos when updating the policy.

Rex would like to see the downtown corridors-arterial/collective streets to be of high priority with limited planting to one to two trees. He doesn't want to see us deviate from the existing plan and continue the standard of going back to the policy and incorporate the new or redevelopment of zones. It's important to be transparent with consistency. Rex asked the board to go back through the tree list and flag any areas of any concern for the next meeting. Rex thought this was a good time to update our policy and tree guide as it will be corresponding with the update currently being done in planning and development. They are including street tree detail showing the use of rebar to direct the roots, etc. Randy reminded the board to pick what they would like to see as far as trees and email Pam for the next scheduled meeting and they will be ready for the board to make decisions for approval.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Sarah was happy to see public attend the meeting. She would like to invite someone from the newspaper. She would like to see more color and even variety in the looks of the trunks in our street trees. Ariann reminded that in the past there was a sense of community and neighborhood by planting in themes or tree species. We also need to remind the public that the specie that was planted over 40 years ago is not the same today.

STAFF COMMENTS

Randy updated the board on the upcoming Transit location on 2nd Court. They will be removing the median and will be new restrooms and picnic tables with an area to plant trees.

Randy also mentioned the article in the newspaper regarding George McNair. He is working with interest groups who will volunteer with planting and landscape plans. He was not aware of the Tree Board and City ordinance governing tree species.

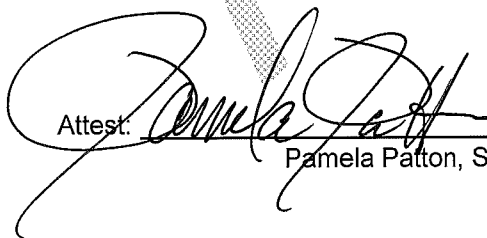
Empire Blvd Project:

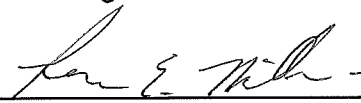
ODOT submitted request to remove three trees for the relocation of utilities and road work that is scheduled. Randy took the board through the plans and detail with the trees being identified

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Patton

APPROVED BY THE TREE BOARD ON THE 4th DAY OF Feb, 2015.

Attest: 
Pamela Patton, Staff


Rex Miller, Chair