

**CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE
URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting
October 18, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Eric Mongan called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Rigel, Commissioner Christopher, Mark
McCaffery, Debra Bartlett (online), Councilor Ervin
Absent: Councilor Savage, Commissioner Hughart,
Staff Present: City Planner, Eric Mongan, Assistant Planner Allison Crow,
Recording Secretary, Tina MacDonald

ITEMS ADDED

None

MINUTES

August 15, 2023 minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

City Planner Mongan shared the Urban Forest Management Plan. It is no longer a background report. The intention is to have the document finalized to go to city council on November 27, 2023.

The management plan is dedicated to Susan Johnson. The urban forest canopy section includes the existing canopy condition as estimated in 2021 by Susan Johnson using iTree. This estimate was the first done, so there is not a reference to whether the canopy has increased or decreased.

The next meeting, on October 25, will have the document updated to include the input from the committee, given to Eric, over the week.

Mark noted that it is a living document as the city and the trees are changing over time.

The committee reviewed the management plan. The executive summary cannot be completed until the report is done. Eric would like the committee to take the report home and add to it and submit their input to him by Monday, the 23rd.

Eric went through the management plan sections.

Why an Urban Forest Management Plan? There needs to be clear strategies included in the plan (see section in document).

Eric discussed the types of trees that will be included as well. There was discussion about placement, coverage and the relationship to other planning documents.

Mark asked about maintenance of the canopy and there was discussion on how we could navigate cost management. There was also discussion on shading asphalt on commercial builds (facility trees).

Eric would like to take this plan to the urban forestry committee the 3rd Monday in November (may need to reschedule due to Thanksgiving).

Mark recommended leaving room under action items for movement, additions, etc. (the how). The action items table will a separate appendix. Eric stated that he will finish the tree types and add possibly 4 or 5 more pages of text.

Mark also proposed the idea of having a separate page for the history of the Tree City USA and the growth award.

Committee is to take a look at the report and get their comments to Eric by Monday.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Eric Mongan adjourned the UFMP Advisory Committee meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Eric Mongan, City Planner

Approved Date