

CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE
URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 19, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Newman called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary called the roll. The following were:

Present: Reilly Newman, Debra Bartlett, Susan Johnson,
Absent: Ona Chambers, Mark McCaffery, Jimmy Schaper, and Paul Higgins
Staff Present: Public Works Director- Faye Stewart, Public Works Maintenance -
Chris Senters

1. **ITEMS TO BE ADDED**

- a. Debra Bartlett requested to add an item discussing Grants – Inflation Reduction Act 1.9 Trillion dollars has money available.
- b. Reilly Newman requested to add an item discussing the Peace Tree Event in Salem.

2. **MINUTES**

July 18, 2022 Minutes

3. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Tree Removal Applications (Faye S.)
 - i. Debra Emerson – 332 North J Street – Myrtle Tree in Public Right of Way

The UFC discussed replacing the Myrtle tree with another Myrtle tree in the public Right of Way. Owner would also like to replace two poplar trees on her private property with two Olive Trees. The UFC was not opposed to either.
- b. Grants – Inflation Reduction Act 1.9 Trillion dollars has money available.
 - i. Debra Bartlett discussed an article from Planet Geo “Treebune” regarding the Inflation Reduction Act that includes 5 billion earmarked for Forestry projects with 1.5 billion going to community forest grants and 360 billion to address climate change. 40 times more than previous years federal spending for forestry projects. Will also include Access and Equity

grants that can be used to fund urban forest initiatives. Would like to bring this to the attention of the City and would recommend the City try and obtain some of this funding. Reilly recommended someone research this to try and find out what type of projects are eligible. Faye has not seen any notices from the League of Oregon cities discussing this funding opportunity. Debra stated she would be happy to research further to get more information. Reilly requested information about what is the minimum or maximum amount of money that can be requested and are their specific match funds required for these types of grants and lastly what kind of projects can the UFC accomplish with this type of money.

ii. Debra also discussed getting the right tree in the right place for street trees along Main Street. Faye mentioned the Main Street project already includes 28 new street trees. Debra stated she thought the UFC should comment on the type of trees to be planted on Main Street and mentioned that there should be a diversity of species. Faye stated their might not be flexibility to modify the project because the design has already been submitted that was approved by the refinement plan approved in 2015.

iii. Debra discussed sharing the Planet Geo “Treebune” eNewsletter. Reilly reminded her that she could share it with individuals, but not the entire UFC in one email because it would be considered a public meeting and that individuals can choose to subscribe on their own.

- c. Reilly informed the group that a Peace Tree Celebration Event in Salem was planned for Saturday, at 11 am where they will plant a Gingko tree at the Oregon Department of Forestry Office, 2600 State Street, Building B, Tillamook Room, Salem, Oregon.

5. **INFORMATION FROM STAFF**

Faye mentioned the UFMP Advisor Committee kickoff meeting was held on September 15th.

6. **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Debra mentioned the Sentinel will allow us to place an ad about interested and concerned citizens to join us in the UFMP process.

Reilly would like to see a standing item on the UFC agenda regarding the Emerald Ash Borer and reviewing the State Plan for addressing the issue. Susan mentioned that we need to finish the tree inventory and identify the location of all of the Ash trees.

7. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Chair Reilly adjourned the Urban Forestry Committee meeting at 4:33 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Eric Mongan, City Planner

Reilly Newman, Chair