CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE

**URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

December 19, 2022

# CALL TO ORDER

Chair Newman called the meeting to order at 4:07p.m.

# ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary Tina MacDonald called the roll. The following were:

Present: Paul Higgins, Ona Chambers, Reilly Newman

Online: Debra Bartlett, Susan Johnson, Mark McCaffery, Jimmy Schaper

Staff Present: Public Works & Development Director- Faye Stewart, City Planner – Eric Mongan, Recording Secretary-Tina MacDonald

1. **ITEMS TO BE ADDED**

None

1. **MINUTES**

November 21, 2022 Minutes – Approved 7-0.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. 2023 Tree Giveaway (Eric M.)

Eric discussed taking a different approach to the Tree Giveaway. As discussed at November’s UCF meeting the City would like to do a planting of fewer, larger stature trees in right of ways around the City. Looking for insight from committee. Chair Newman said committee is on board. Would like to discuss the possibility of the less affluent neighborhoods that may not be able to care for the trees. Eric would like the UFC to let staff know how many trees they think they would want to plant in the next 2023 this season. Committee agrees with Reilly regarding the people and places that would need the trees the most are the ones that may not be able to care for them. Committee is discussing options for funding and sourcing. Eric will bring a city map to next UFC meeting to start discussing locations, etc. Faye spoke about how the effort of this project will give good insight into similar projects going forward.

* 1. Peace Tree Discussion (Reilly N.)

Reilly discussed the Peace Tree in Coiner Park. Planted in 2020. Committee was not able to implement original plan. The signage has fallen off, there is a temporary fence. Faye spoke about his intended plan with paver circle, bench, and a monument sign. City crew has been overwhelmed with other projects. Deborah asked about the downed redwood. Starfire has milled and is storing it for benches for various projects throughout the city. Eric spoke about the plaque for the beech tree.

* 1. Tree City USA application status. (Eric M.)

Applications have been submitted. Next step is for the Oregon Community of Trees and Department of Forestry to sign off for finalization from Arbor Day Foundation. City should hear about early March. Spoke of awards for growth.

* 1. Tree Report (Faye S.)

Faye presented a tree on River Road for removal. Jimmy motioned and Reilly seconded removal. Motion passed unanimously.

1. **INFORMATION FROM STAFF**

Eric spoke about the reminder from Dept. of Forestry and Arbor Day Foundation regarding the Booster Grant. Staff is looking into it.

1. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None

7. **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Welcoming new staff members. Happy Birthday to Paul.

1. **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Chair Newman adjourned the Urban Forestry Committee meeting at 4:58 p.m.

ATTEST: APPROVED:

Tina MacDonald, Recording Secretary Reilly Newman, Chair