



Tree Committee Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, January 24, 2019

Location: Mayor's Conference Room - NDGC

Meeting Started at 2:07 pm

Meeting Attendees: Milenka Hawkins-Bates, John Larson, Bob Dollar, Colette Berna, John Albers, Paul Wandling and Hillary Hamilton

Absent: Mike Kelly, Tom Brobst and Ryan Crater

1. Call to order
2. 2019 Tree Committee Roster was reviewed and updated.
3. Minutes from the September 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved by the committee members in attendance.
4. Milenka and Hillary provided the committee members with a final report on the October 2018 Arbor Day Foundation Tree Giveaway program and discussed partnering again in 2019. A total of 100 trees were provided/planted with over 69 on private property and the remaining at Evergreen Rotary Park; the most popular were the Kousa Dogwood and Japanese Red Maple. Luke Miller with the Arbor Day Foundation Program sent a survey to all homeowners that participated in the event and positive feedback was received. The committee members in attendance agreed that this event should happen again in 2019 for the same number of trees and discussed ideas for better outreach with the community (i.e. Bremerton Beat, e-mail list, social media, flyers, signs) and to advertise earlier.
5. Colette provided an update on the tree inventory work for 2018. In 2017, the Parks Department received a grant from DNR to assess trees, the Parks Department looked at forested parks and part of Evergreen Rotary Park. Work performed by Arborist Kevin McFarland will be completed in April 2019. The City's match for the grant received in 2017 is to be completed by hours which includes the City's park tree inventory. Mike

Kelly to date has 64 hours invested into the tree inventory project and well over 200 trees inputted; Colette checked this morning and there are well over 500 trees in the GIS. During the winter months it is harder to collect data, so Mike's priority is to go to park locations where he already knows the number of trees.

- John Larson mention LiDAR (mapping system) which is good for large areas, private lands and appears to be free. John is going to find out more information and report back at the next meeting.
- Arborist Kevin McFarland will continue with street trees once he is completed with park trees.

6. John Larson had requested an update on the Arbor Day Tree and if it had been replaced. Colette mentioned at the last meeting that there was an issue with getting water to the tree since there was no ability to hand water and the Parks Department has a long list of watering during the summer. Steve Mutek with the Parks Department tired contacting the company that provides Dri-Water, but they went out of business; Dri-Water needs to be replaced regularly and would require a dedicated person for just that.

- Bob Dollar mentioned hiring a contractor to water.
- John Larson asked about prioritization of hand watering. Colette mentioned that there is one water truck full time on flower baskets.
- Milenka mentioned talking with her Streets Crew about assisting with watering this tree.
- Bob Dollar asked if the tree would be planted in the same place? Milenka and Colette stated a good place is needed so the tree can reach the establishment stage (3-4 years).

7. Colette provided the committee with an update on the replacement of the missing Downtown street trees. There is automatic irrigation at the following two locations; 4th Street between Pacific and Park Ave and at the 2nd Street turnaround. Colette does not advise replanting on 2nd Street due to the Marina Square construction happening in that area. Milenka will take lead on ordering the two trees on 4th Street and Steve Mutek will plant; replace with the same type of tree to keep unified.

- Milenka will work on getting quotes to water 20 trees during the dry months.
- Bob Dollar asked about removing and putting planters in at 4th Street on Pacific & Washington. Milenka mentioned that this area is under design for the Quincy Square project and the City can put something in to see how it does (Crape Myrtle Tree).
- Colette mentioned that gator bags need to be filled once a week.

8. Milenka briefly discussed the Veneta Trees since Kevin McFarland was unable to make the meeting. Kevin will provide an update this quarter. The tip of one tree is starting to die and more harm would come to the tree if the curb was taken out. City wanted to close off parkway, but the neighbors were concerned about vagrants at Kiwanis Park. More to come.

9. Updates

Milenka:

- Five trees lost due to storm damage (all private property).
- Part of a Madrona Tree was taken down on Patten Ave.
- Black Locust Tree on Naval Avenue being removed.
- Still assessing right-of-way trees.
- 1st section of gateway will include: remove shrubs, trees remain and rock placement. Middle section will be completed in 2020.
- Streets Crew working on ADA then focus on sidewalk work in the CDBG area.
- Not much paving (Veldee/19th/Phinney Bay); more chipseal this year.

Paul Wandling:

- Marina Square starting in April 2019; not a lot of plan information currently. Excavation on site and shoreline work, removing some trees and light stanchions. A lot of parking is going away.
- Residential development heading towards Werner Rd; 240 homes in six phases.
- Land use review on Riddell Road.
- 3rd Avenue residential development was sold to EastPark Developer by JWJ Group.
- Residential apartments from Riddell to Hollis.
- Four apartment buildings and 80 residential homes behind the old Lowes building; all have landscape and Department of Community Development requirements.

Colette:

- Arbor Day will be the 2nd Wednesday of April. More to come.
- Colette discussed Manette Park – Stop by, a lot has changed. Playfield LED lighting, children playground, new restroom and 17 trees planted and the rest in the next few weeks. Open to the public now but the grand opening will be the Saturday before Easter; it will coincide with the Easter Egg Hunt.

10. Goals for 2019

- Complete Hazardous Assessment for Park Trees.
- Continue tree inventory for Parks.
- Continue street tree inventory.
- Replace downtown trees (as much as possible)
- Arbor Day
- Arbor Day Tree Foundation Planting (tree giveaway)
- Heritage tree – Start identifying/researching (work with Planning Department)

11. Next meeting Thursday, April 18, 2019, 2:00 pm / Mayor's Conference Room

12. Meeting Adjourned –3:11 pm

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