

**CITY OF CORVALLIS**  
**MINUTES OF THE CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION AND URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2012**

Attendance

Tim Brewer, Vice Chair  
 Kent Daniels  
 Ross Parkerson  
 Larry Passmore  
 Becki Goslow  
 Norm Brown, OSU Liaison

Staff

Karen Emery, Director  
 Becky Merja, Urban Forester  
 Jackie Rochefort, Park Planner  
 Mark Lindgren, Recorder

Visitors

Absent/Excused

Angelica Rehkugler, Chair  
 Tony Livermore  
 Joel Hirsch, City Council Liaison

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION**

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
II. Review of Minutes- September 13, 2012	X		
III. Visitor Propositions	X		
IV. Heritage Tree Program			
V. Staff Reports- if questions	X		
VI. City Council/ OSU Liaison Reports	X		
VII. Report on Subcommittees	X		
VIII. Break into Subcommittees	X		
IX. Adjournment	X		The next CBUF meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. November 8, 2012, at the Parks and Recreation Conference Room.

**CONTENT OF DISCUSSION**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Tim Brewer called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

OSU Liaison Norm Brown related that he has worked at the OSU Landscape Department for the last 25 years. He was substituting for Joe Majeski, saying he had taken on additional responsibilities.

**II. REVIEW OF MINUTES.**

Ross Parkerson moved and Kent Daniels seconded to approve the September 13, 2012 minutes as presented; motion passed.

**III. VISITOR PROPOSITIONS.** None.**IV. HERITAGE TREE PROGRAM.**

Forester Merja noted that development of the proposed new Heritage Tree Program had been delayed for a few months, due to the short staffing that the Park Supervisor position vacancy caused. Director Emery related that a new Park Division Supervisor, Jude Geist, was recently hired; he held a similar position in Salem. Merja said Geist will now be helping develop the Heritage Tree Program.

Merja highlighted a notebook assembled by Linda Hart about similar programs around the state. She said the process of developing the new program should emulate the establishment of the Urban Forestry Master Plan, in which nine individual stakeholders met, with public input. She anticipated the group would hold two public meetings. She sought suggestions on stakeholders; they could include an arborist; an at-large community member; and representatives from OSU, PreservationWorks, Historic Resources Commission, CBUF, Planning Division staff, the school district, and Corvallis Tourism. Planner Jackie Rochefort suggested including a Parks, Natural Areas, and Recreation Board (PNARB) member.

Emery said the PNARB would review the plan before it went to the City Council for adoption. Parkerson said it seemed like a good group. Daniels suggested also including a member of the County Parks Board and said the assembled materials were a good starting point. He suggested a simpler nomination process. Parkerson highlighted unique Corvallis trees that need recognition and protection as soon as possible.

Merja explained that the timeline: assembling the stakeholders group in November, getting them the informational notebooks to review, with the first meeting in January, wrapping up by the end of February or early March and rolling the new program out in March. Parkerson noted that there was a lot of repetition in the materials.

Merja highlighted possible stakeholder members: former CBUF member and arborist Mike Riddle; Norm Brown or Joe Majeski from OSU; B. A. Beierle or Dave Livingston from PreservationWorks; Ross Parkerson or Angelika Rehkugler from CBUF; Vicki Wills; Phil Hays from County Parks and PNARB; Marc Vomocil from Starker Forests and PNARB, Pat Breen; and Bob Stebbins. Emery suggested former commissioner Dan Bregar may be interested; Merja added that he was a good connection to the school district. Merja said the program should spark people to *want* to nominate their trees. Several members emphasized the importance of finishing in time for a May launch.

Brewer highlighted a very old walnut near 14<sup>th</sup> north of Western at an apartment complex. Passmore highlighted a black walnut near 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Philomath Highway. Merja said she was getting a free DNA ID on the Avery walnut tree (near the locomotive) planted by early settlers; it appears to be resistant to the canker disease afflicting many other local walnut trees. Parkerson asked whether the program would protect trees; Merja replied that that would be up to the community to determine.

**V. STAFF REPORTS- IF QUESTIONS.**

Forester Merja highlighted removal of cottonwoods on 8<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson through November 5-7; tree removals on Hayes Avenue; and Country Club Drive tree removals are scheduled for Oct 17. She said two Norway Maples at 33<sup>rd</sup> and Harrison Boulevard with significant root rot will be removed. She is scheduling removals of birches on Van Buren Boulevard. She has submitted a tree order for replacements, though there is not watering capacity to replace all of the removed trees. She related that some residents

have indicated willingness to water replacement trees that are equipped with watering bags. On Country Club, four species will be replanted, including Maple cultivars and Parrotia persica. She said where power lines are not an issue at the site, larger trees can be planted.

Rocheftort said the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update was continuing; the update will include urban forestry, civic beautification, the Urban Forestry Master Plan, IVPM, the Waterwise/Pesticide-free program, and an updated list of beautification areas. The CIP will go to the CIP Commission in October.

Daniels highlighted a honey bee demonstration at the Oak Creek Center for Urban Forestry. Emery said a hive is being added at Sunset Park in a partnership with OSU.

Emery related Ian Davidson was being appointed to fill the current CBUF vacancy and will join in November. She related that Janet Ranzoni received the Adopt a Park application; the Corvallis Garden Club decided to not formally pursue adopting the street island. Ranzoni came to the City Council meeting unhappy with the process; and the Secretary of the Garden Club sent a note to the department, saying the Club was taking a year off. Emery related that Ranzoni had felt that there had been a verbal agreement about not spraying at the site, which had been broken.

Passmore related that a few trees got protection in the Corvallis Register of Historic Buildings and Landmarks due to their association to local historic figures. Rocheftort said that that information is archived.

#### **VI. CITY COUNCIL/OSU LIAISON REPORTS.**

OSU Liaison Norm Brown highlighted new construction on campus, including on the Women's Building field, as well as the installation of a new natural gas line. He related that the "Moon Tree", a large Douglas Fir at the northeast of Peavy Hall, was recently signposted during a dedication ceremony; it was grown from seeds that orbited in a moon flight some years ago.

#### **VII. REPORT ON SUBCOMMITTEES.**

Becki Goslow announced it was time to pick up the pink Civic Beautification Award signs; there will be cards to leave with property owners. There will be a small pilot fall program, with signs in a fall color. Rocheftort said Becky Levine will order them.

Merja reported that during the September 21, the Day of Caring event, a small group worked on Madison Avenue and Central Park and areas to the west. There will be a similar cleanup on tree wells in the Madison Avenue area between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets, with the OSU group Geo 300 on October 18. Tools will be provided.

Rocheftort related she got a big compliment on new landscaping at the Central Park Plaza; the Madison Avenue Task Force (MATF) made a big financial contribution for streetlights and bollards to be installed at the Plaza in several weeks. In discussion, Merja explained that adequate watering of trees is the bottleneck in the number of trees that can be planted. Passmore suggested getting more specific with job descriptions to improve recruiting people for watering and other tree care, by giving them a more defined sense of how much time was involved. Merja is having discussions with how Friends of Trees could assist.

Rocheftort related that the MATF would no longer be selling bulbs at Fall Festival as a fundraiser, after thirty years of doing so. She said leftover bulbs have traditionally been given to the City. Parkerson suggested that CBUF take on the space.

**VIII. BREAK INTO SUBCOMMITTEES.**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** The regular meeting adjourned at 9:42 A.M.