

**CITY OF COOS BAY
MINUTES OF THE TREE BOARD
September 4, 2014**

Tree Board members present: Rex Miller, Chair; Ariann Lyons; Jake Robinson, Cora Vandervelden,

Tree Board members absent: Kim Singh; one vacancy

Staff Present: Randy Dixon, Jon Eck, Pam Patton

Representative for Trees Inc.: Skip Shipman

Meeting Opened at 4pm; Roll Call taken; Approval of June 5th Minutes

MOTION: Ariann Lyons
SECOND: Cora Vandervelden
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Ayes Unanimous, minutes approved as written

New Business:

Board member, Mike Vaughan gave his resignation to the board. The Downtown Association has recommended as their representative, Sarah Crawford to resume the position that was held by Beth Clarkson. It is now before the Council for approval.

Requests to Remove:

- **212 D Street** – Leslie Darryl Piatt – Tree in ROW on 2nd Ave. It has power lines running through it and branches have been cut away right down the middle. He considers it to be hazardous. After discussing the condition of the tree, the consensus of the board was to allow the removal of the whole tree. Removing only half could possibly expose a risk to the remaining half and surrounding area. Rex asked for a motion.

MOTION: Cora Vandervelden motioned to remove the entire tree at owner's expense.
SECOND: Jake Robinson

DISCUSSION: Skip Shipman, Trees Inc would swing by to look at the tree since there are power lines involved. Randy asked if they do any cutting, he would have city staff help in getting it to the Salvation Army.

VOTE: Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

- **949 N 8th St** – Shawn Gant – A dangerous tree on SE side of N 8th St and infected with fig/ivy. Tree is leaning and is becoming safety issue. Discussion among the board and site inspections, the tree might be a Fir tree is abundant with Ivy that is choking out the tree. Staff's recommendation is the property owner need to hire an arborist to determine if the tree needs to be removed or if it is a maintenance issue with the Ivy in which the city would cut around the Ivy and pull from the bottom. The written report by the arborist will be reviewed by the Tree Board and the board will determine the course of action.

MOTION: Jake Robinson motioned in agreement with staff's recommendations to hire an arborist.
SECOND: Ariann Lyons
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

- **1416 D St & 14th Avenue** – LoAnne Fitzhugh – Trees in the ROW need thinning (less than 9" diameter) to allow continued growth of older, larger trees and to maintain view. Trim branches nearing phone lines and cut back over grown brush. The board discussed the request and we don't remove trees in the ROW for views. They did not see a safety/hazardous situation.

MOTION: Jake Robinson motioned to deny the removal of any trees but permit the property owner to limb-skirt up the trees and the cutting of brush.
SECOND: Ariann Lyons

DISCUSSION: re: ROW and maintenance to abutting property owner. Any work performed in the ROW needs a permit to be evaluated. We encourage the maintenance of weeds and brush but only through an approved permit to protect any infrastructure or/and method of removal.

VOTE: Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

STAFF COMMENTS

Randy Dixon apologized for having been absent the last couple of meetings. He would like to send out meeting appointments to begin work on the existing tree ordinance. He has other facilities in the coastal range that he felt would impress everyone and would like the board to review and compare to ours and see areas to assist us in drafting our ordinance. The forecast is to be ready with this before Thanksgiving and the final draft for the board's review in January 2015 and back to Council in February. He hopes to have those meeting dates and times shortly.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:45pm

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Patton

APPROVED BY THE TREE BOARD ON THE 4th DAY OF Dec, 2014.

Attest: 
Pamela Patton, Staff


Rex Miller, Chair