

**CITY OF COOS BAY
MINUTES OF THE TREE BOARD
FEBRUARY 14, 2013**

Tree Board members present: Chairman, Rex Miller, Ariann Lyons, Jake Robinson, Kim Singh and Mike Vaughan

Tree Board members absent: Cora Vandervelden, Beth Clarkson

Staff Present: Randy Dixon, Jon Eck, Pam Patton

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 3, 2013

Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 4pm and then asked for a motion to accept the minutes of January 3, 2013.

MOTION: Ariann Lyons motioned to approve as read
SECOND: Jake Robinson
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: Aye's – Unanimous. Motion carried

Mr. Dixon took a moment to cover the Tree Ordinance, Chapter 8.30 of the Municipal Code and the hand out, 'Ex Parte Communications' with the board. Mr. Dixon wanted the board to refresh themselves with the ordinance and what is required in the ordinance which is to review existing policies and procedures that govern the Tree Board and what activities we do out in the community with the trees. It asks that the board reviews the plan and the provisions every three (3) years and agree with the existing policies or agree to make changes and bring recommendations to the council.

In looking back, he cannot find where that review has been done in quite some time. It is his recommendation that we call for a motion to continue with the current policies that have been outlined or make a recommendation to review them. It was asked about updating the species list. Mr. Dixon asked the board to go through the current species list and compile a list of trees they would like to recommend and submit them to Pam and he will formulate a plan and bringing it back to be approved.

With the Parks Master Plan coming together in the development of assets, it is important that the Tree Board remain consistent with the Parks Master Plan regarding the species list. Rex Miller had concern with the species list and felt the tree list needed to be divided into two categories: Street Scape and Park Scapes. He would like us to continue keeping with the theme that has been established. Mr. Dixon agreed and went further to state that we needed to define the current policy for street canopies and consider placement and zone or district and then to format that policy clearly identifying and spelling it out in specifics.

Rex Miller asked for a motion to continue working under the current policies and to move forward with review of policies and development of assets.

MOTION: Jake Robinson
SECOND: Ariann Lyons
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Aye's – Unanimous. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

755 Augustine – Third time before the board but was tabled for further investigation. Kim Singh had spoken to the owner and the trees in question are leaning away from the house. The request is for the purpose of putting in a graveled RV pad. A discussion ensued regarding the pictures that were taken. With the proposal of excavation per the permit that is pending, question arose if a retaining wall be required and if they had addressed water drainage. They would have to look at a Topo map. It appeared that approximately 60 feet would be cleared. Chairperson Miller brought the board back to the request of removing trees, as Public Works will address their permit requirements. Staff recommended surveying (set parameters) of the area. Motion was asked to allow the removal of the tree(s) within an approximately 15' x 60' area with staff setting the parameters.

MOTION: Rex Miller
SECOND: Kim Singh
DISCUSSION: Randy Dixon recommends that staff go out and survey the area
VOTE: Aye's – Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

245 S 2nd – Removal requested by the City as crews will be replacing the sidewalk. The trees are Oak and appear to be stressed. Jon Eck would like to have it removed and replan. Ariann Lyons asked the timeframe they would be doing the sidewalk. Mr. Dixon commented that there would be time to do assessment before making a decision. Ariann asked if there would be adequate time to do zoning and street scapes. Randy Dixon agreed with Mike Vaughan to look at different species and the redesign of the tree well. Motion to remove but replanting will be done according to new standards, species and tree well.

MOTION: Kim Singh
SECOND: Jake Robinson
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: Aye's – Unanimous. Motion carried.

4th & Bennett – Tree(s) blocking new cross walk signal on the east side of 4th. Ariann Lyons understands the safety aspect but is concerned that it is disturbing the theme/look of downtown. Mr. Vaughan suggested they move the trees back towards parking lot. Mr. Dixon proposed to raise the elevation and do a bump out to the placement of a rapid-fire signal as a solution without touching any trees. Mr. Dixon withdrew the request.

STAFF COMMENTS

Kim Singh commented on the appearance of the trees at USA Gas/WalMart and concerned if there were any regulations as to trimming of trees. They have been terribly chopped up. Mr. Dixon will have staff go out and take a look.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:15pm

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Patton **APPROVED BY THE TREE BOARD ON THE 4th DAY OF April, 2013.**