

**CITY OF REDLANDS
STREET TREE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
October 22, 2015**

1. Call to Order at 5:32 pm – Attendance

Present: Don Buchanan, Chair
Janet Ward
Andy Hoder
Roy Mannickarottu
Linda Richards
Andrejs Galeneras

City Council: CC Paul Barich

QOL Staff: Erik Reeves
Jocelynn Santa Cruz
Chris Diggs
Cecilia Griego

Redlands Community
Foundation liaison: Absent

Visitors: Nancy Sidhu
Dip Sidhu
Chris Sedmack

- 2. Public Comments** – Redlands resident Dip Sidhu spoke concerning all the dying trees all around Redlands. He and his wife Nancy have donated funds to plant trees, and now they are dying. The Bethany Church on Cajon has dying trees on their property and in the parkway. CC Barich to contact the Boys and Girls Club at that church to see if they could water the trees as a project. The Sidhu's will contact the church again to see if they could help save the trees. They suggested the city post signs around town about "It Is OK to Stop Watering Your Turf, BUT WATER THE TREES".

Janet Ward commented that on Texas/Carmody Court there are dead or dying city parkway trees. Erik Reeves will investigate both locations.

- 3. Approval of Minutes** – *Approval of Minutes for September 28, 2015.*

Amend minutes to remove 4A, discussion and recommendation concerning the city's Municipal Code as it affects Street Trees and trimming criteria of trees – (Andy Hoder) – Andy Hoder will discuss the Code Enforcement Conflict with 12.12.110 (Streets and Sidewalk Use) and 12.52.120 (Trees & Tree Protection) with regards to 2 references in the Redlands Municipal Code which do not match each other and add to the December Agenda. With the removal of 4A, Roy Mannickarottu motioned to approve the minutes, Janet Ward seconded. Unanimously approved (Don Buchanan, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu, Linda Richards, and Andrejs Galeneras).

4. Status Reports

- a. *Bi-Monthly review of any new City parkway street trees in proposed developments* – No parkway trees proposed. West Coast Arborist was awarded the City's Tree Maintenance bid, but awaiting to officially award bid due to administrative issues. Erik Reeves reported there are dead Liquid Ambers/Crape Myrtles, and other smaller trees all over town and the city workers are removing them since they are small and are not a hazard. No block or mass trimmings going on at this time due to lack of contract. Approximately 100 dead oak trees and under 1000 dead city parkway trees to remove. Mostly dead trees.
- b. *Bi-Monthly Street Tree Overview (QOL) – Update on city parkway trees trimmed, removed or planted* – CC Barich reported that the City is trying to add an additional \$20,000-\$40,000 to the new City's Tree Trimming Budget.

5. New Business

- a. *Discuss Palm tree issues to include trimming/maintenance/selling of endangered Palms* – Erik Reeves will contact the new building project next to Pharaoh's Kingdom Park which may have a need to buy some of the City's endangered Palm trees for the new project. Janet Ward will continue to attempt to contact Shelli Stockton and Char Burgess to see if there are funds to trim city Palms. Andy Hoder commented on the wind during this week and the Palm fronds in the streets in Redlands. Erik said there is a process to pick up the palms, and there is Fwisarium Wilt hitting Palm trees.
- b. *Discussion on City using non-portable water and gray water to irrigate city parkways, schools, city parks, Country Club, etc.* – Don Buchanan spoke about comments at the last STC meeting concerning Gray Water, Recycled Water, Potable Water and Non-Potable Water issues. Chris Diggs, Director of Municipal Utilities and Engineering Department, gave presentation on the sources of water in Redlands and an update on water issues. The State of California and Redlands plan to use non-potable water. The City's landscaping ordinance is in effect until December 1, 2015 and if the City of Redlands does not strengthen said ordinance, then the State of California's ordinance stays in effect. Gray Water – City is reviewing the State of California requirements, plumbing code, kinds of gray water, where water can be used, grass usage, there are a lot of issues to be addressed. Laundry to Landscape – still has to have Building & Safety involved, State of California has no permit process, but falls to the City for permits. There is NO water wasted in Redlands. Citizens use water twice. All Gray Water goes back into the Mt. View Waste Water Treatment Plant then back into the underground basin where Redlands taps into for our water. Potable water – Drinking water. Non-Potable Water – Well water, straight from the ground. Irrigation systems used for irrigating groves – Bear Valley Co, West Redlands Co, Crafton Water Co. Recycled water NOT counted against the numbers the state has stated

Redlands has to cut their water usage by. Redlands has 35 miles of non-potable water lines or pipes in Redlands (Recycled water). Basin levels are at an all-time low. Ground water basin used for water in Redlands. 50% ground water, 50% from service flows. Redlands uses NO Gray Water – Soapy water. Redlands needs snow so water can soak into the ground. ½ of the rain water soaks into the ground. Redlands is in a good position regarding water supplies.

- c. *Discussion on new City Project concerning repairing damaged city sidewalks* – Erik Reeves reported on the \$900,000 approved budget for repairing sidewalks throughout Redlands. If any concrete is pulled out, mostly on the North Side, QOL makes every effort to save trees. Every measure is taken to protect and save city parkway trees. Erik will give the STC a list of trees/areas affected with this project.
- d. *Discussion on city parkway trees not being watered* – CC Barich to get with Carl Baker to put article out that it is OK to stop watering the turf, but WATER THE TREES. Don Buchanan commented that Redwood trees need more water, and southern California has experienced a significant loss of them during our 4-year drought.

6. Old Business

Don Buchanan reported on STC PowerPoint Presentation to the Noon Kiwanis Meeting. Kiwanis wants information about using a link on the City's Web Page for people to link to the Kiwanis and various tree issues. Need to work this request.

7. Agenda items for Next Meeting

- a. Discussion and possible recommendation on designation of Landmark Trees, Heritage Tree Rows, and Scenic Preservation Trees – (Janet Ward and Chris Sedmack) – Having designated Landmark Trees, Heritage Tree Rows, and Scenic Preservation Trees is a practice throughout the country. Redlands currently does not have a policy or list of these trees in place.
- b. Discussion and possible action on City Banner across Cajon about IT IS OK TO KILL TURF, but WATER YOUR TREES.

8. Adjournment at 6:50 pm to next Meeting, December 14, 2015

Submitted by Chris Sedmack, Secretary