

**CITY OF REDLANDS
STREET TREE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
July 6, 2015**

1. Call to Order at 5:35 pm – Attendance

Present: Don Buchanan, Chair
Chris Sedmack
Janet Ward
Andy Hoder
Roy Mannickarottu

City Council: Mr. Paul Barich
QOL Staff: Erik Reeves
Jocelynn Santa Cruz

Redlands Community
Foundation liaison: Absent

- 2. Public Comments** – Janet Ward spoke about 3 dead Palm Trees at the New Hope church on Highland/Ford. City will be removing the 3 dead trees once there is a new city budget.

- 3. Approval of Minutes** – Approval of Minutes for April 23, 2015 Regular Meeting. Janet Ward motioned, Andy Hoder seconded. Unanimously approved (Don Buchanan, Chris Sedmack, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu).

4. Status Reports

Bi-Monthly review of any new City parkway street trees in proposed developments (QOL) – Erik Reeves reported there were no new street trees to approve in new housing track at California/Lugonia Ave.

Tree removals – 444 Alvarado – Ash, no tree replacement planned due to new tree would be too close to Palm tree. 1246 W. Palm/Nottingham, Silver Maple, bees in it, will be replaced with smaller tree. 1042 W. Chestnut – Ash tree, city will redo cut stone curb, tree will be replaced.

Councilman Barich reported a hanging branch on an old Pepper tree on Highland/San Jacinto. Tree top was removed. City will remove whole Tree and will replace with new tree.

Don Buchanan reported on unacceptable tree trimming at Prospect Park/Cajon St, Roosevelt Ave, Highland/Redlands Blvd Palm trees. Erik Reeves reported that he and Tim Sullivan looked into the matter. Mowbray's did the tree trimmings, but not the Palm trees at Prospect Park/Cajon. Erik Reeves reported that Mowbray's is no longer employed by Edison and there will be a new tree trimming company trimming city parkway Palm trees for Edison.

5. New Business

- a. Discussion of 2015 Goals and Accomplishments to date – Chris Sedmack handed out 2015 GOALS to STC members.

1. *Amend the CC approved Street Tree Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual in two areas – Section 10.4 and Section 10.6.*
The Street Tree Committee requested that the following two sections be amended in

The Street Tree Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual:

Under 10.4 Role of Street Tree Committee in Street Tree Removal Process (14), amend to read in paragraph one, **“The Quality of Life Department is required to submit, prior to removal, all non-emergency City tree removal requests to the Redlands Street Tree Committee for review and approval; whereas, the City will continue to have authority per Chapter 12 of the Redlands Municipal Code for emergency tree removals.”**

2. Under 10.6, Utility Line and Palm tree Conflicts (15), **“Any revenue collected would be used to purchase and plant new street trees, relocate other endangered palms, and/or used for trimming of palm trees.”**
3. *Increase the budget for city street tree trimming in order to meet the guidelines set forth in the Street Tree Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual.* Request City Council to add more funds to tree trimming budget. With the state increasing minimum wage, the extra money for tree trimming was reduced. Erik Reeves took a seminar in San Marino and reported on new type of mite killing Palm trees.
4. *Utilize the Grants and Donations section set forth in 3.2 of the Street Tree Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual for developing funds to trim city parkway trees.* Janet Ward referred to the April STC minutes for names of landscape companies for possibly purchasing endangered Palm trees under Edison Lines. That money could then be used for maintenance and trimming of city parkway trees. Janet Ward reported that she spoke with Danny Payne, treasurer from the Redlands Community Foundation, about initiating a program where citizens could donate funds for the use of trimming City Street trees, and such donations could be used as a tax write-off.
5. *Provide designation and protection for city parkway Landmark or Heritage trees.* Utilizing the Street Tree Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual, under section 6.2, page 10, Landmark Trees, Heritage Tree Rows and Stand, and Scenic Preservation, the STC will provide a list of City Parkway trees for designation. This will be incorporated into the city’s street tree data base. The STC is required to get this list in front of the City Council as soon as possible.
6. *Provide mechanism for city to transplant or sell city parkway palm trees.* Janet Ward provided possible landscapers who may be looking for some of our endangered palm trees to purchase. 2 landscape companies were given to Erik Reeves as possible buyers

of endangered Redlands Palm Trees under Edison lines. An Irvine Company and a San Fernando Valley Company as possible sources to buy endangered Palm trees in the city.

Janet Ward motioned to adopt 2015 GOALS, Roy Mannickarottu seconded. Motion passed unanimously (Don Buchanan, Chris Sedmack, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu).

Don Buchanan reported on meeting with two groups and giving a STC presentations. Out of 160 attendees, only 1 had seen the write-up of caring for Oaks. Don Buchanan mentioned being at the city luncheon in June and the booklet handed out by the city barely mentioned the STC and did not mention our most significant accomplishments.

2014 STC Accomplishments for the year, with the exception of the removal of item #2 which was completed the year before, Janet Ward motioned and Andy Holder second. Motion passed unanimously. (Don Buchanan, Chris Sedmack, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu).

- b. *Discussion of Street Tree Planting Palette* –Erik Reeves reported on a class he took in San Moreno and the new variety of Australian trees available as drought tolerant trees. The city’s goal is to add a number of special drought tolerant trees. West Coast Arborist grows their own trees, but with a year’s head notice, they would grow special ones for the city. There are 9 smaller Eucalyptus and 12-25 varieties, along with multi-trunk varieties suitable for parks, which could be planted in city parkways. Erik Reeves has grower/vendor nursery source which specialized in Australian trees and shrubs. Erik Reeves will provide DRAFT of Primary Street Tree Palette at the August STC meeting.
- c. Discussion of street trees and adjacent parkway vegetation - tabled

6. Old Business

- a. *Discussion pertaining to STC PowerPoint Presentation* –Don Buchanan continued.
- b. *Parkway and street tree drought challenges - tabled*
- c. *Utility bill insert information - tabled*
- d. *Discussion and possible action of the Street Tree Committee’s involvement with the Honorary Tree Program - tabled*

7. Possible Agenda items for Next Meeting –

- a. SC Edison attend STC meeting on using Ally Arms to save trees, undergrounding power lines. Erik Reeves will ask new Edison tree trimming company to be at the August 17 STC meeting.
- b. Utility Bill – Work on new STC insert. Possible stressing our city trees being the 3rd most valuable asset to the city. Possibly expanding to all of the local newspapers in addition. To provide better coverage.

- c. Discussion of Quality of Life's recommendations for Drought Tolerant Trees be added to the City Council approved Street Tree Palette recommendations.
- d. Discussion of City Parkway policy on what hardscape/plants which could be planted in city parkways.
- e. Discussion and possible action of the Street Tree Committee's involvement with the Honorary Tree Program.
- f. Discussion and possible action on recommended amendments to the Street Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual.
- g. Discussion and possible action on designation of Landmark Trees, Heritage Tree Rows and Stand, and Scenic Preservation trees.

8. Adjournment at 7:30 pm to next regularly scheduled meeting, Aug 27, 2015

Submitted by Chris Sedmack, Secretary