

**CITY OF REDLANDS
STREET TREE COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
Thursday, February, 23 2023
MINUTES**

Present: Chris Sedmack
Jessica Barrios
Bettina Mcleod
Kelly Covey

Council: Eddie Tejeda

FCS Staff: Erik Reeves
Jocelynn Butters

Visitor: Andy Hoder

1. CALL TO ORDER: Attendance 5:45 pm

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Iris Chu: Concerned about watering the Citrus groves and suggested that the city plant more Citrus trees instead of other types of trees. Ms. Chu would like to see more orange trees because it is part of the city's heritage. Committee member Sedmack indicated that the Street Tree Committee makes recommendations for street trees in parkways. Committee member Sedmack recommended that she contact the local newspaper to do an article.

Dr. Bala addressed the committee and asked for assistance with having an old Oak tree accessed on his property; 1559 Marion Rd. Superintendent Reeves will share the name of an Arborist with Dr. Bala.

Andy Hoder provided a little history on the Street Tree Committee Policy and Guideline manual. He wanted to encourage new members to become familiar with its contents and commented on wanting to see the new committee members work on allowing public comments. Mayor Tejeda commented that new changes should be made to how applicants should be heard.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 31, 2023, special meeting minutes – Committee member Barrios motioned to approve the minutes, Committee member Sedmack 2nd - motion passed unanimously (Kelly Covey, Bettina Mcleod)

4. STATUS REPORTS:

- A. *Bi-monthly review of any new City parkway street trees in proposed developments:* Superintendent Reeves reported a housing development near Citrus Valley High school will be getting about 200 new trees. The development near Moore middle school will be getting about 24 new trees. There will also be approximately 60 new trees planted in the spring and fall.
- B. 4,444 trees were trimmed. Staff will email the list to STC members.
- C. Tree fell at 305 Bond Street; crews responded immediately for removal and clean up.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. *Discussion and possible action on updating Street Tree Policy & Guidelines Manual*
New members were provided with a copy of the current Street Tree Committee manual. It is being modified and when completed, will need to be approved by the City Council.
- B. Arbor Day is April 24. The City is planning on hosting an Arbor Day event. Committee member Covey motioned, Jessica Barrios 2nd the motion, motion carried unanimously. Erik will let us know when and where the event will be held.
- C. Discussion: Should there be a special wording and definitions for “pruning and trimming”. Committee member Covey will research and update the STC at next meeting.
- D. *Discussion on heat index and effects in relation to parking lot areas and tree trimming effects:* Committee member Sedmack contacted ESRI and obtained a Street Trees and Heat Islands in Redlands handout. Committee member Covey will contact a company to get a map of heat index.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action on planting policy for Crape Myrtle trees in city easement: Do we want to change the written policy in the STC manual?
- B. Cypress Circle: Going to replace the trees that are dying because of no irrigation. Going to use gator bags because West Coast Arbors have a 1 year warranty. Lighting will be added to the trees.
- C. Discussion on historical landmark trees: Create a door hanger for neighborhoods that have special landmark trees. (Erik is to review it).
- D. Goals for STC for the coming year.

7. POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- A. Possible planting of additional Oak Trees on Brookside Avenue in vacant spots.
- B. Create subcommittee with members for possible future projects.

8. ADJOURNMENT AT 7:20 PM to April 27, 2023

Submitted by Committee member Jessica Barrios/Chris Sedmack, Secretary