

Meeting Minutes

Date Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Time 6 p.m.

Location City Hall

Aspen Conference Room

415 W. 6th St

Vancouver, WA 98668-1995

Commissioners/Board Members Present:

Melissa Johnston, Clif Barnes, Jamie Beyer, Jeff Kessenich, Susan Law, Khanh Tran

Staff Present: Charles Ray, Nick Redmond

Guests: Jaynee Haygood, Chair of Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission; community members Susan Sanders and Dan Szumlas; Lowell Wyse, Executive Director of Tacoma Tree Foundation

ITEM 1: Call to Order and Roll Call – Chair/Vice Chair

The May 15, 2024 meeting of the Urban Forestry Commission was called to order at 6:03pm by Melissa Johnston (Chair). This meeting was held both in-person and online.

ITEM 2: Approval of Minutes – April 17, 2024

Motion by Jamie Beyer, seconded by Jeff Kessenich, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the April 17, 2024 Commission meeting.

ITEM 3: Introductions

The Commission offered introductions for community members and guest speaker present.

ITEM 4: Special Guest-Lowell Wyse, Executive Director of Tacoma Tree Foundation

Members

Melissa Johnston Chair

Clif Barnes Vice Chair

Susan Law Past Chair

Jamie Beyer

Jeff Kessenich

Khanh Tran

Vacant

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Guest speaker Lowell Wyse of Tacoma Tree Foundation shared presentation of organization, including overview of mission, current programming, and future opportunities, followed up by a Q&A with Commissioners and community members.

ITEM 5: Heritage Trees Score Cards

Commissioners agreed to move Agenda Item #5 to immediately following Agenda Item #10 and recorded portion of meeting.

ITEM 6: Program Updates

Emailed out.

In-meeting updates include:

Corridor Committee reported successful completion of grant for Fruit Valley planting, including final report submission.

ITEM 7: Community & Arborist Communications

None.

ITEM 8: Urban Forestry Report

See Report.

ITEM 9: Commission Communications

Jamie shared of attending pop-up arboretum at Edgewood Park.

Susan shared of recent travels and upcoming corridor project.

Jeff shared of several projects in progress.

Clif shared of attending Outreach Subcommittee meeting, Earth Day Mother Camas event, and tree walk in Jade District.

Khanh shared of Arbor Day Proclamation acceptance as well as arrival of new baby.

Melissa shared of new class of Tree Stewards, coordinating with Tacoma Tree Foundation, and volunteer shift at Mother Camas event.

ITEM 10: New Business/Agenda topics for future meetings

Commission expressed interest in future discussion on Depave program.

ADJOURNMENT

7:17pm

Melissa Johnston, Chair

Meetings of the Urban Forestry Commission are electronically recorded on audio. The audio tapes are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.