

**CITY OF COOS BAY
MINUTES OF THE TREE BOARD
January 9, 2014**

Tree Board members present: Rex Miller, Chair; Ariann Lyons; Cora Vandervelden; Jake Robinson.

Tree Board members absent: Beth Clarkson; Kim Singh; Mike Vaughan

Staff Present: Randy Dixon, Jon Eck, Pam Patton

Guest: Aaron Speakman, The Dyer Partnership and Ron Hoffine, CB-NB Water Board.

CALL TO ORDER – Roll Call - Approval of Minutes for April 4 correction and December 5th

MOTION: Cora Vandervelden motioned to approve the minutes of April 4th and December 5th as read.

SECOND: Jake Robinson

DISCUSSION: No discussion

VOTE: Aye – Unanimous vote, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

603 N 11th - Jeffery Reese – have the Maple designated as a heritage tree.

It was agreed among the board to Table the heritage designation until criteria established on the process of appointing a tree as a heritage tree.

1165 Ferguson – Ralph Mohr. Determine if the tree needs to come out. If not, Mr. Mohr would like the Maple designated as a heritage tree. Staff stated that Patrick Myers and Mr. Mohr are okay for now with understanding to leave with root trimming and the sidewalk replacement at the cost of the property owner. *Staff reported that Patrick Myers who inspected the tree felt it would survive the 6-inch portion of the root that needed to be cut out along with the root trimming done by Mr. Mohr. Patrick did do some pruning. With the tree roots being the reason for the sidewalk buckling, the issue will probably return to the tree board at a later time.*

NEW BUSINESS:

1030 N 10th Court – Richard and Wendy Rudder – Tree(s) removal in ROW. Trees are Bull Pine and they are not in good shape. One has a large scar where a branch had broken and others appear prone to breaking. Property owner would also like to use a ROW permit for development. Staff's recommendation is to remove trees in the ROW because of the nature of pines to shed branches. Staff gave the findings from an on-site inspection. His recommendation is to remove as a safety concern.

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(1030 N 10th Court)

MOTION: Jake Robinson motioned to approve the removal of the pine trees at the expense of the property owner. A letter is to be written to owner.
SECOND: Cora Vandervelden
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Aye – Unanimous vote, motion carried.

Ocean Boulevard Waterline Improvements – Location is Woodland/Ocean Blvd. Trees are in direct conflict with a new waterline alignment. Guest, Aaron Speakman with Dyer Partnership gave a brief overview along with a drawing of their project and pictures of the trees to be removed along with the pampas grass. Staff's recommendation is to approve as shown with a request to replace. Guest, Ron Hoffine with the water board requested that the City allow them to put in the pipeline as shown in the drawing and remove the trees as identified. When the project is completed, they will give \$200 to go to the City for replacements at the City's discretion of location to plant. All were in agreement that pampas grass is rising to the top of the list of obnoxious weeds and prefer that it not be replanted.

MOTION: Jake Robinson motioned to approve per staff's recommendation and the plan outlined above by Mr. Hoffine.
SECOND: Cora Vandervelden
DISCUSSION:
VOTE: Aye, Unanimous vote, motion carried.

DISCUSSION: 290 N 3rd Court – Scott Tarhar – 3 Pine trees (2 large Monterey Pines and 1 Shore Pine) No action is required at this time as property owner withdrew request. Arborist, Patrick Myers had requested removal on behalf of the property owner as trees have loose branches that land on their carport as well as shedding needles that clog gutters. Staff completed a site inspection but the discussion remains to be one of liability. Shedding branches are a liability but if the tree board is asking that trees remain because of health are we ignoring liability. The consensus of the board was "declaring at time of inspection" to be the critical piece that needed to be understood and included in the findings somehow. Further discussion is in order and the board will ask the City's attorney to weigh in.

See CBMC Title 8, Chapter 8.10.060 – Trees

(1) No owner or person in charge of property that abuts on a street or public sidewalk shall permit trees, bushes or vegetation on the property to interfere with street or sidewalk traffic. An owner or person in charge of property that abuts on a street or public sidewalk shall keep all trees, bushes or vegetation on the premises, including the adjoining parking strip, trimmed so that any overhanging portions are at least eight feet above the sidewalk and at least 14 feet above the roadway.

(2) No owner or person in charge of property shall allow a dead or decaying tree to stand if it is a hazard to the public or to persons or property on or near the property. [Ord. 409 § 1, 2008; Ord. 400 § 6, 2007].

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Jake asked if the City has scheduled a tree (replacement) planting as he has conifers that need to come out of pots and be planted. Also, he'd like to see a field outing scheduled (maybe one in the fall and another in the spring/summer) to view downtown trees to become familiar and if allowable take a snip here and there to help with pruning and shaping. The board agreed.

Rex voiced his concern over two street trees that have been basically topped and the symmetry of the street trees they worked for on 4th Street had been destroyed. One was on 4th and Curtis due to damaging a canopy and the other tree on Commercial at Dairy Queen have been basically topped as well. He felt that they had 4th street well balanced and asked how we can prevent this from happening again. Rex strongly urged the City to get back to scheduling two streets a year or sooner to assess the trees and for maintenance.

STAFF COMMENTS

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:10pm

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Patton

APPROVED BY THE TREE BOARD ON THE 13th DAY OF March 2014.

Attest: *Pamela Patton* 3/13/14
Pamela Patton, Staff

Rex Miller
Rex Miller, Chair

