

**CITY OF COOS BAY  
MINUTES OF THE TREE BOARD  
June 5, 2014**

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

**Tree Board members absent:** Mike Vaughan; one vacancy

**Staff Present:** Randy Dixon, Jon Eck, Pam Patton

**Representative for Trees Inc.:** Skip Shipman

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**Meeting Opened at 4pm; Roll Call taken**

**Unfinished Business:**

- 299 B St - Susan Calvert. Trees planted in ROW by the middle school. Ariann spoke to the school regarding the trees in the ROW stating "they had no funds to remove the trees but may be willing to entertain removing one or two. They certainly are not thrilled at losing them as it adds protection from traffic, vehicles and children." Further discussion took place among the board members. The size of the trees is getting out of hand and will eventually cause problems. With diameters of 12 to 24-inches, perhaps taking a percentage per year and/or thinning could be something that might work.

The board recommends the property owner contact the school district superintendent to discuss Susan Calvert's concerns and see if they find a plan that is workable for both. At that time, bring the plan back to the Tree Board. Rex asked if there was a motion.

**MOTION:** Ariann Lyons motioned for no removal of trees.  
**SECOND:** Cora Vandervelden  
**DISCUSSION:**  
**VOTE:** Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

**New Business:**

- Pioneer Cemetery – Replacing fence on west side of the cemetery and will need room. Removal will affect a Wax Myrtle and an unidentified hardwood. The Cedar & Cypress will stay. Staff recommends removal of listed trees so project can proceed.

Staff member, Jon Eck, brought back an update regarding the Pioneer Cemetery and the placement of the wrought iron fencing. The Wax Myrtles will be removed and the hardwood is a Maple and it will remain as it has historic value. Rex asked if there was any discussion or for a motion.

**MOTION:** Jake Robinson motioned with staff's recommendations  
**SECOND:** Ariann Lyons  
**DISCUSSION:**  
**VOTE:** Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

- John Topits Park at 324 Ackerman. Trees are leaning towards buildings and could pose threat in a wind storm. The trees were thought to be Shore Pine. Arborist recommends removal. Staff recommends the removal of the hazardous trees to protect life and property.

**MOTION:** Cora Vandervelden motioned in agreement with staff's recommendations to remove the hazardous trees.  
**SECOND:** Jake Robinson  
**DISCUSSION:**  
**VOTE:** Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

- Upper Tennis Courts/West Park Roadway – Tree is leaning over tennis court and could fall in high winds. The tree does have a 2-inch split in the trunk. Staff met with arborist and determined the tree to be a safety concern and needs to be removed.

**MOTION:** Jake Robinson motioned in agreement with staff's recommendations to remove.  
**SECOND:** Cora Vandervelden  
**DISCUSSION:** **As a FYI, a dead Cedar was found at the same site and will also remove.**  
**VOTE:** Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

- Coos River Hwy & Ross Inlet Rd – Information only – Beaver have chewed through tree and tree is in danger of falling. Staff recommends to remove tree for safety consideration. This may be something to ask ODF&W to look into the beaver and the damage they leave behind. Rex explained that he is trying to get them to move down the river and away from the guardrail. He'd like to remove all six Alders from the guardrail along the Eastside corridor and leave the one Sunset Maple. Rex brought along a bag of "real chips." The board applauds the tenacity of the beaver in keeping Rex busy.

**MOTION:** Jake Robinson motioned to allow the removal of the six Alders.  
**SECOND:** Cora Vandervelden  
**DISCUSSION:**  
**VOTE:** **Rex Miller abstained.** Ayes votes were Cora Vandervelden, Jake Robinson, Ariann Lyons and Kim Singh. Motion carried

- 460 S 6<sup>th</sup> – Linda Jordan – Concern for tree shedding branches causing damage to cars or people. At site inspection, the tree has areas of rot and scars from previous lost branches and it is a difficult tree to prune. The tree has also been previously topped for power line clearance. Staff's recommendation is to remove the tree. The tree was identified to be a Birch. The tree's height was estimated to be approximately 50 feet.

**MOTION:** Cora Vandervelden motioned to follow staff's recommendations to remove with replacement of an appropriate species from the approved tree list at the owner's expense.  
**SECOND:** Ariann Lyons  
**DISCUSSION:**  
**VOTE:** Ayes Unanimous, motion carries

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Rex read the revised Tree Removal Form and the board was in agreement with including the clause: "The City suggests/recommends that the applicant hire a certified arborist, at applicant's expense, to evaluate the tree which is sought to be removed and provide a copy of the arborist's report with this request."

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Skip Shipman, with Trees Inc., informed the board that they would be in the Eastside area changing out several transmission poles.

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:55pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Patton

**APPROVED BY THE TREE BOARD ON THE 4 DAY OF Sept, 2014.**

  
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Rex Miller, Chair

Attest:   
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Pamela Patton, Staff

