

BRIGHAM CITY SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Minutes for TUESDAY, November 13, 2012

Present: Arlie Pittman, Chair,
Mary Coleman, Commission Member
Phyllis Nielsen, Commission Member
IvaBeth Wilcox, Commission Member

City Staff: Director Pugsley Pugsley, Public Works Director

Excused: Jolene Crockett, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Brian Rex, Council Member
Mike Phillips, Commission Member

Arbor Day

Chairman Pittman passed out pictures from last year. He said the principle was very happy with the activity of Arbor Day at Discovery Elementary School.

Director Pugsley stated we need to decide where we want to hold Arbor Day this year. He said we thought we might be able to plant trees at Discovery Grove Park but we may not be ready for that as we cannot afford to lay sod and most likely will have to hydro seed. He said another place might be the Sports Complex or one of our other parks. Discussion followed regarding where at the sports complex we would place the trees. Director Pugsley encouraged everyone to think about this and come back next month with some ideas.

Commission Member Wilcox asked if we would hold Arbor Day on a different day; on Thursday rather than Friday. She said it seemed that we changed the day. Director Pugsley said typically we hold it on Friday. Commission Member Coleman said we changed it last year for Discovery School. Director Pugsley agreed that we had changed it.

Tree City USA

Applications are due December 1st. Director Pugsley said he and Ms. Crockett will prepare the application so it can be turned in. Director Pugsley stated that Ms. Crockett did a really good job submitting it online last year even though it was somewhat cumbersome in nature. This will be our 27th year.

Introduction of Brady Theurer

Director Pugsley stated when Blake Foncesbeck left the City it left Director Pugsley handling both positions (Director and Assistant). When we had our first reorganization Mr. Theurer was moved to Public Works as an Inspector. With the next reorganization he was given the responsibility of the parks. His new title is Public Works Inspector Supervisor.

Director Pugsley explained that he will continue handling the Forester responsibilities. There has been some discussion regarding contracting someone to be the Forester. Director Pugsley said he has not received any formal education on being the forester. His is more hands on experience. This is just a thought that may or may not happen according to the budgetary process.

Tree Trimming Report

Director Pugsley explained that every year the Street Division goes out and inventories the clear view triangles. This determines which trees are causing a hazard. This trimming has been completed. Much of our tree trimming funds has been expended this year. He said we have used quite a bit on trees that have died on Box Elder Creek. There were also larger trees that we needed to cut down.

Director Pugsley explained that we will try to concentrate on the downtown trees. We are trying to be sure every five years that we trim these trees. This will ensure they stay healthy and strong.

Chairman Pittman asked about 2nd east. Director Pugsley said last year we expended the last of our budgetary funds on the Ash trees on 2nd East which were causing issues. Because we are rotating every five years on the sycamore's it will help us address other needs. Director Pugsley said we try to do as much as we can in house but, with the larger trees it is very difficult and we have to hire it out. Director Pugsley said we do have some interest from our parks employees, namely Jason Christensen, to become a certified arborist.

Director Pugsley asked the members when people approach them about trees to bring them to this meeting and we can create a priority list.

Commission Member Nielsen said the tree the Garden Club planted for a past president has been bumped out of the ground. Director Pugsley asked what type of tree. Commission Member Coleman said a magnolia. Commission Member Nielsen wondered if we should plant something else and farther away from the bowery area. Director Pugsley said decide what variety and we can plant it again this next spring. He agreed moving it away from the bowery area would be a good idea.

Tree Removal Request

323 South Main - in front of McFarland Ford – Elm Tree

The group decided it should be taken out. Commission Member Coleman asked if it would be at the City's expense or theirs. Director Pugsley said if the irrigation line happens to be involved with the City line we would take it out. But, if not, the irrigation company can handle that. Director Pugsley said we do a lot of work hand in hand with the water companies and we will work with Mitch Cochran on this.

Other:

Commission Member Coleman asked about the 2nd Phase of trees at Eagle Crest Home Owners Association. Director Pugsley said we are looking to start the 2nd phase this spring. We may have to stretch out the phasing a bit longer but we are looking towards more trees this spring. Director Pugsley will get Mr. Theurer the information regarding this project.