

**FAIRVIEW MUNICIPAL TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Meeting, Tuesday, 02 September 2014
7:00 pm

1. Chairperson, Debby Rainey called the September 2014 meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. Roll was taken. A quorum was present.
In attendance: Debby Rainey, Chairperson; Larry Richards–Vice Chairperson; Stuart Johnson, Vice Mayor; Lisa Anderson, Planning Commission Chairperson; Mike Berkley, City Arborist; Jane Woodall, Secretary.
Absent: Beverly Totty, Mayor; Jack Cannon.
Guests: City Manager, Wayne Hall; Frank Humber, City Codes Manager
3. Approval of Agenda: LAnderson moved to approve the agenda as amended; LRichards seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the agenda for the September 2014 meeting as is; none opposed.
4. Approval of Minutes: LRichards moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting; LAnderson seconded the motion. The board approved the minutes for the August 2014 meeting as is; none opposed.
5. Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments.
6. Old Business
 - 6.1. Bowie Commons noncompliance – FHumber informed the board that Diane Adcock from PGM Properties was unable to make the meeting. He said that she knows that she needs to go back to the original landscape plan for placement of the replanting, there needs to be replacement of the hemlocks and the need to remove trees that are in the wrong locations. Since PGM is planning to replant in October, the board will defer any follow-up to the November 2014 meeting.
 - 6.2. Mapco Property noncompliance – Since this property is also held by PGM, follow-up on this will also be deferred to the November 2014 meeting.
7. New business:
 - 7.1. Walmart Landscape - dead tree inventory: MBerkley took an inventory at Walmart and found fifty-seven (57) trees and one (1) shrub (a Chinese juniper) are dead. He noted that, ironically, 28 Virginia pine trees, native to this area, died; other species usually sensitive to heat, survived. He stated that this may have been due to something that occurred at the time of their planting. FHumber agreed to provide this information to Walmart noting the need for replacement. MBerkley also pointed out that about 200-300 native shrubs, Winterberries, planted on the west side and back are full of berries and are very attractive.
 - 7.2. Dead trees on City Hall Property: WHall noted there are 7 (seven) dead trees on the eastern side and 1 (one) by the mailbox. MBerkley noted that the City Hall property has the opportunity to work toward being designated arboretum status if a variety of species are used to replace the 7 dead trees.
WHall also noted that he would like to consider planting another Christmas tree (evergreen) to balance the current evergreen on the front lawn. He stated that City Hall is now in charge of decorating the tree – the tree lighting will take place the first weekend in December. Per MBerkley, the current tree is a Burkii cedar; its maximum height is 15-18 feet. He stated to match one that size, the city would have to look to Georgia and the cost would be about \$800-\$1000. He agreed to call and get an estimate for a second Burkii cedar of a similar height. A discussion ensued about other types of evergreens to consider: SJohnson asked about hemlocks – MBerkley noted that this would have to be irrigated. MBerkley mentioned that a Virginia pine might be a good idea although

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this would require some pruning. MBerkley stated he would also collect some information on Virginia pines and other possible species to consider.

7.3. Proposed BOC change in the Tree Bank Ordinance: Per the Landscape Design Manual, monies in the Tree Fund can be used for landscaping, which includes some hardscape as well as the organic material. The Tree Commission members discussed the possibility of designating a certain percentage of the funds being designated specifically for trees. Per WHall, the BOC is considering having the current \$98K not to be touched except for trees – strictly tree survival and replacement – if it passes. Anything collected in the future could be used for hardscape.

Also, in the discussion of the funds, it was noted that the RoadScapes project is getting closer to receiving approval by the state; this would include the planting of all native plants. WHall noted that the City of Fairview is currently taking care of the maintenance of the property.

DRainey expressed concern of the number of hours that were spent setting up the ordinance and would like the Tree Commission to be considered for input to any changes. SJohnson stated that he did not see that any changes need to be made in the ordinance as it is. A question was raised on how we could ensure the plans for which the funds might be used would include trees and not be used for just sidewalks, fencing, etc. (Example: Dr. Rice wants to add landscaping for the Triangle School property, including trees, and fencing.) It was noted that landscaping on city property does not usually come to the Tree Commission for approval, but could be brought to the Commission as a courtesy.

7.4. Use of orchard trees in the Community Garden: WHall and JCannon “stepped off” the property for the placement of the orchard trees and these would be on the Fairview right of way. Tree Bank funds can be used to purchase the trees. DRainey thinks the plan was approved by the school board. MBerkley will look into an appropriate number and species of trees that could be used. The planting of the trees would be in recognition of National Arbor Day. SJohnson recommended that selected orchard tree be purchased and donated to the Community Garden for the 2015 National Arbor Day event (this was made as a motion); LAnderson seconded the motion. The board approved the motion; none opposed. It was pointed out that any recommendations for use of the funds in the Tree Bank will need to go to the BOC for appropriation.

8. Update on Tree Bank Funds – See parts of 7.3 and 7.4. WHall reported that \$98,317 minus \$445 (for paw paw trees) remains in the Tree Bank; this included the \$1000 from Taco Bell on the removal of the trees on that property.
9. Adjournment: Prior to adjournment, a Fairview citizen commented that regarding the Tree Bank funds, they would like to see it noted that a percentage of the funds go to the BOC for use rather than leaving the entire amount open to use by the BOC. It was also asked if money could be obtained from the county school fund for the orchard trees. DRainey commented that it has been a problem getting money from the school facilities funds for the Community Garden use.

For future agendas, to allow for citizens to be able to hear the issues prior to the floor being opened for comments, the Citizens Comment section will be moved to after the Business section.

With no further business, DRainey adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM. The next scheduled meeting will be 07 October 2014.