



TREE AND LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

January 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Members present: Joe, Lisa, Deb, Liz

City Staff: Melissa Henshaw, Michael Colliver

October 2020 Minutes approved with two edits

Reports: Lisa-1, Deb -2, Joe -1, Liz-1

Persons to be heard

Michael Colliver – CARES – 20 transitional temporary employees – all focus projects but two at Mohler are closed. The CARES program was mainly FEMA funds. The recreational budget was \$350K. The crews leveled out the graveyard at the end of Baranof, railing at Whale Park, and many other projects. Operating budget for grounds was 900K – 477K expensed, 322K remaining. Most is for staff, not much funding remaining. We are sustaining and maintaining but not much for new infrastructure or capital projects. The big picture is to balance our assets and maintenance costs.

Old Business – Firehall Weeding Delayed until spring. Connor has a plan of what he wants to do. We need to pick a date and get any materials we need on order. We will have to dig out what is there, apply a weed blocker, and add back soil and plants. It's a big project. We need to coordinate with the new Chief, Craig Warren. The target date of Sat or Sunday March 27 or 28 is our tentative schedule for starting this project. We will be using a mini excavator and truck and will be taken to the overburden sight because of the amount of horsetail and other weeds. We can ask Craig to attend our February meeting to get his buy-in. Michael will coordinate ordering plant material with Connor. The plan does not include the planting on the north side of the building.

Workshop on Tree Planting and Maintenance – Liz talked to Jasmine and she was going to talk with someone at the extension service to help with that. This will be a volunteer effort. She will follow up.

New Business - Michael Colliver

Baranof Elementary School is proposing a change of the planting bed at Oija Street. They want to remove that bed and hardscape it to improve the flow going into the building, including benches. We would keep the plant material and repurpose it. The school has some funding for this but not everything they need.

There is a group out there, lead by Connie Kreiss, looking to put benches or monuments in at HCH or the Sea Walk, or by City Hall.

The Elephant Ear bed across from city hall (2/3 state property) has a big spruce tree. This tree is getting too big for the bed. It is lighted for the holidays and this year they lights were broken due to the wind.

Comprehensive plan for city beds - how do we plan to cycle things out when they are done. What is our long term budget for replacement? Create long term projects that we can pick off year by year. Have a plan for each bed to make it easier to maintain.

Next meeting is Wednesday, February 10 at 5pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted by

Lisa Moore