

## SMITHFIELD CITY TREE COMMITTEE MEETING 9/5/23

Attending: Deon Hunsaker, Jeff Barnes, Jennifer Clarke, Kayo Robertson, Jack Greene

Excused: Carole Holland, Mair Murray. Guest Levi Morrison

1. Watering our new trees as weather determines is going well, several committee members helping. All 25 trees appear to be healthy.
2. Jeff's Utah Community Forestry Partnership grant progress report- no decision yet, expected any day. Reviewed what grant would cover and dollars requested.
3. Hayden's arborist certification schedule- busy summer, no time to prepare- perhaps winter season?
4. Trees & Summit Creek watershed. Trees are critical for a healthy watershed. Nicholas Reithel, Watershed Coordinator for the Bear River Watershed, plans to attend our next Tree Committee meeting, to update us on the two Smithfield meetings and how our committee can be involved. Kayo has attended both meetings. He felt an evening meeting would be better attended by our citizenry, as 10:30 am meeting time doesn't fit most work schedules
5. Fall leaves and composting. Jack will prepare a message on benefits of composting leaves for the city website/Facebook.
6. Other business- Jack reported a new development near his home has removed trees bordering Summit Creek, which violates the city ordinance of leaving a natural buffer 25 feet from stream center. He has discussed this with the property owner, who plans to plant many new trees near the stream. The stumps from trees removed were left in place for some bank protection, along with a sediment fence.  
  
Considerable discussion regarding the need for a chipping machine to create compost which the city could sell, recouping the chipper cost which varies from \$25k and up, but used are much cheaper. Kayo will prepare a statement to share with the city council and city leaders.  
  
The "flip your strip" parking strips were discussed, how it would impact trees and storm water. Jeff mentioned a good job of xeriscaping has occurred in a Smithfield city subdivision where curbs have been cut to allow storm water to enter the strips rather than down the storm drain, saving water, filtering toxics, and watering parking strip vegetation. Jack mentioned ditches replacing curbs, which the Logan Specialty Hospital has done. Paving the strips with rocks was discourage.
7. Next meeting October 3rd