

11/7/23 SMITHFIELD CITY TREE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Attending: Deon Hunsaker, Carole Holland, Jeff Barnes, Jennifer Clark, Kayo Robertson, Jack Green, Guests: Rich Johns

Jeff's grant progress report. Most of the \$15k will be used for tree removal and stump grinding. Jeff has created a map showing location of dead trees needing removal. At least two bids required for costs. Remaining for Hayden's arborist certification, tree inventory, management plan update, and Arbor Day elementary school activities. Some discussion on chipper and stump grinder. Keep track of all tree committee member hours for grant match. Justin, city manager, has some dollars assigned to tree committee activities if needed. Jeff will send tree policy for committee members to review should changes be needed.

Hayden's arborist certification- Justin will be encouraging Josh to provide some time for Hayden to pursue the certification.

Nick Reithel, Bear River watershed coordinator, had identified several areas along Summit Creek which could use some restoration activities. He mentioned grant opportunities to help with bank stabilization, including planting trees and shrubs. One reach borders Forester Acres. Another is the Dan Brown property bordering Jack's property, and Kayo mentioned a reach just below the Forest Service boundary. Jack suggested we try to engage canyon resident Sherm Jensen, a professional who is highly knowledgeable and experienced with stream restoration, who he will attempt to engage. Nick and Jack will find some time in early December to visit some of these sites. Tree committee members will be invited to join them. Jack asked if anyone was aware of Summit Creek policy which mandates properties bordering the stream to maintain a natural buffer to protect the stream. No one was aware of it.

Nick will be working with agricultural interests west of town as well. Some of the diversion structures could be improved, including the one in Mack Park nature park. Nick will be meeting with the irrigation company on these concerns. Soil management is critical.

The road damage repair work above the Smithfield campground was discussed, and how it might be completed with minimal stream damage. The county roads dept. is responsible. Inquiries should be made.

The "Flip your Strip" program requires the surface have at least 50% plant cover to qualify.

Nick mentioned the national pollinator program which may provide resources for plantings. There was considerable interest in this program.

Fall leaves and composting was discussed. Excellent fertilizer and mulch for gardens. This led to green waste disposal, which has been extended to November 16th. Some mentioned their leaves don't fall until later in November, which will present a disposal problem. Bagged leaves go to the landfill, not a good solution! Guest Rich Johns will take all extra leaves as mulch for his one acre parcel in west Smithfield.

Another guest wanted advice on a tree root which was lifting the sidewalk bordering his property. He suggested jacking up the sidewalk and cutting the root. Jack agreed this was a good solution.

Guest Rich Johns wishes to become a candidate for the Tree Committee. Deon will be submitting Mr. Johns to the City Council for consideration.

Next meeting January 2nd