

Smithfield City Tree Committee, February 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Present: Jack Greene, Jeff Barnes, Kayo Robertson, Mair Murray, Rich, Todd Orme

Excused: Carole Holland, Jennifer Clark

Jeff's grant progress update- Cemetery trees and stumps have been removed according to contract, then 3 more were added which took us \$500 beyond our budget item for tree removal. D's Trees noticed several others that should be removed and pruned to control further beetle damage. They will put a bid together for next year's city budget. Most are 100+ year old trees. Their age and lack of sufficient water make them highly vulnerable to insect and disease damage. A tree management plan needs to be developed for the cemetery, which may include planting new trees of different species and installing a better watering system.

Tree committee policy change- Jeff will complete his review and recommendations for policy change he's gathering from other Cache County municipalities for our March committee meeting.

Summit Creek bank protection code- Todd is working with Justin attempting to find code that may apply.

Abor Day poster contest- "Maple Trees are Super Heros!" will be the title for this year's contest, focused on the Rocky Mountain bigtooth maple. A few changes were made in the list of requirements for participating schools, grades 1-6. Otherwise, it will proceed as previous poster contests. Jennifer's artist brother and friends will judge the entries as they did last year. Some committee members wish to see the posters as they're being reviewed. Only the grand champion will be invited for the tree planting ceremony during Health Days. The top 5 posters in each school will be awarded a cash prize. We have \$210 for prizes. Kayo will be creating a flyer before the March committee meeting for the schools which will include his artwork and a list of attributes for this amazing tree. We hope to get more participation from Summit elementary this year. Posters will be due April 29th, judged the first week of May, and winners announced prior to May 11th Health Days. We hope to take photos of the winning posters and have them on the city website/Facebook for a few weeks.

Health Day's booth- Jeff will arrange. We will have similar activities to last year, which proved very successful and engaging. Perhaps Kayo can have some spare seedlings as prizes, which proved very attractive to all ages last year.

Hayde's arborist certification- Justin will be providing Hayden with the needed resources and incentives to complete his certification in a timely manner.

Community garden- Jack has been invited to join the Healthy Utah Communities group to discuss the community garden concept. Todd mentioned that some of his Multicultural committee have interest as well. The tree committee feels that a well

designed survey on the desirability of the garden be designed for Smithfield citizens. Rich would like to be a part of a community garden subcommittee should it be formed.

Other business A lengthy discussion on the dearth of native tree stock at local nurseries. Growing some of the natives has proven difficult. Jack transplanted a bigtooth maple 20 years ago and it has flourished. Seedlings are more difficult to work with.

Next meeting March 5th