



City of Oregon City

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
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Meeting Minutes Natural Resources Committee

Monday, July 14, 2021

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

Chair Broshot called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Present: 7 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Mike Hamilton, Committee Member Devon Pilney, Committee Member Carrie Young, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, Committee Member Chris Weaver, and Committee Member Samantha Wolf

Staffers: 2 – Community Development Director Laura Terway and Public Works Director John Lewis

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Old Business: Draft Invasive Species List and Associated Flyer

Chair Broshot discussed the invasive species list that was put together by Committee Member Weaver and how they had talked about creating a flyer with the top five or ten species with pictures to focus on removing. She thought the NRC should discuss which plants should be on the list, or if they should make two lists, one a list of all invasives and the other a list of the worst that people should not plant.

Sam Leininger, Weedwise Program Manager, said they had to decide what the desired use of the list would be, regulatory or outreach. The Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District had a noxious weed list for the states of Oregon and Washington, as well as a County list, which the City could adopt. They could make a list of invasives to highlight, however he cautioned there were species that were still

horticulturally sold and could be a problem to regulate. If there was a plant they wanted to see prohibited from sale, they should take it to the Oregon Department of Agriculture and nominate it as a noxious weed listing. Ivy was on the list already.

There was discussion regarding examples of successful outreach campaigns, creating a weed abatement event, developing neighborhood weed programs, coordinating with neighborhood associations, potentially hazardous areas for pulling weeds, and particular areas in the City that needed attention.

Laura Terway, Community Development Director, noted they could not adopt the County's list as the City's nuisance plant list for planning purposes. They had to go through the resolution process to update and approve the City's list.

Mr. Leininger thought it mattered if it was for planning purposes or enforcement purposes. The County's noxious plant list was reviewed and updated annually. The state's list was updated twice a year.

The protocol for updating the lists would be brought back to a future meeting.

Updating the Oregon City Street Tree List

Ms. Terway gave a background on the street tree list and reasons for updating it. She noted that people could pick a species off this list, they could use another local jurisdiction's list, or they could plant a tree with approval from a certified arborist. The amended list would need to be adopted by resolution.

Andrew Land, Friends of Trees, discussed the NRC's idea to remove Maple trees from the list. They were desirable trees, and he thought some species should be permitted. Also, they did not know how many Maples there were until they did a tree inventory. He discussed qualities to look for and species to avoid. He then discussed other tree species to add to make the list more robust.

Ms. Terway said the City Commission passed the tree canopy recovery program. Money had been set aside for arborists and a tree inventory. However, they were not getting interest in arborist services. They could shift some of that money to the tree inventory.

There was discussion regarding street tree inventory apps or programs, optional Maple species, trees to add and remove from the list, good options for tree wells, caliper size, inventory, and pruning standards.

Committee Member Wolf would integrate the suggestions and update the list, including some varieties of Maple. The NRC would discuss the list at the next meeting. It might be valuable to have a separate list for tree wells.

5. Communications

Ms. Terway gave an update on the Heritage Tree Program. They were working with property owners in the Thimble Creek Concept Plan area for heritage tree grove designations. Staff was working on outreach to citizens about the Tree Recovery Program.

There was discussion regarding getting volunteers involved in the tree inventory and inviting ODF to the next meeting to discuss their tree inventory grant program.

Ms. Terway said there would be a presentation at the City Commission Work Session in August about the street tree and sidewalk repair assistance program.

6. Future Agenda Items

At the next meeting there would be a presentation from ODF, discussion on the street tree list, and a Parks and Recreation Director presentation. The next meeting would start at 7 p.m., and the official award ceremony for Ms. Dahlsrud would be at 6 p.m.

7. Adjournment

Chair Broshot adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM.