



CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION



Tuesday, March 13, 2018 8:00 a.m.

Green Committee – Final Approved Minutes

In attendance

Diane Beyer (Asst Dir Public Works), **Jane Shelhorse** (Dir Parks, Recreation and Events), **Carolyn Helfrich** (C & G Commission), **Sally Hall**, **Anne Little**, **Carl Little**, **Steve Gaske**, **Carl Banks**, and **Frank Widic** (Chair)

- The regular meeting of the Green Committee was called to order by Chair Frank Widic at 8:04 a.m.
- Frank Widic called for additions or corrections to the Draft 02/13/2018 Green Committee Minutes. The minutes were approved by the unanimous consent voting method since no corrections were offered.
- Public Comments: No public comments were presented.
- Discussion items:
 - Subcommittee Goals: Frank opened the discussion on the goals. He stated that we are headed toward being more of an active membership rather than just an advisory role, and is looking for various members to take on each of the long-term goals to determine in more detail what we really want. There was discussion regarding time commitments of members, as well as other aspects of the goals. The feasibility and approach on fund raising was discussed. Going after grants or possibly forming something like a “Friends of...” type of organization may be a better approach.
 - Long Term Goal 1: Increase Tree Canopy to 49% or 5% Over Current Cover. There is already a City goal on this. The consensus was to continue toward the established 5% urban forest canopy increase.
 - Long Term Goal 2: Private Property/Development Requirements for Required Tree Cover. Trees on private property are essential to include in the objective to increase canopy.
 - Long Term Goal 3: Develop a Long-Term Master Tree Plan. All agreed.
 - A motion was made by Anne Little to approve the three long term goals. This was approved.
 - Short Term Goal 1: One Fundraising Event for First Annum. As discussed during the introduction of goals, the feasibility and approach on fund raising was addressed. Going after grants or possibly forming something like a “Friends of...” type of organization may be a better approach.

- Short Term Goal 2: Diane Beyer passed out a draft brochure which was discussed.
 - Short Term Goal 3: Green Committee website. There was no objection to pursuing this goal.
 - Short Term Goal 4: Heritage Tree Program. Diane Beyer provided a draft brochure for discussion. There has already been a nomination for a heritage tree. No objection.
 - Short Term Goal 5: Newsletter. Diane Beyer provided an example of a newsletter. The suggestion was made to go electronic with some paper copies. Possible article sources could be monthly blog posts from committee members.
- A motion was made and approved to support the short and long-term goals in principle and present to C&G Committee.
 - Members were asked to further consider which goals they would like to work with to finalize.
 - Utility Strips and Street Trees. A draft brochure was handed out and discussed regarding what can and should be done in utility strips.
 - FRED Tree Planting: Councilman Frye asked for trees at bus stops. Frank Widic and Anne Little have reviewed locations and identified where trees would be appropriate.

Everyone should be continuing to look at future planting areas. Suggested areas are due to Frank Widic by April 3rd.

- Recording of Green Member Hours: Members will possibly report hours to a volunteer member of the committee to compile.
- Parks, Recreation and Events: Jane Shelhorse
 - Cossey Park Update: A grant was obtained to plant a native plant garden at Cossey. A public forum was held on this project. There were concerns that the space was too large, and the maintenance plan was not adequate. The group was advised that more city oversight was required, and additional detailed plans were essential to proceed. The group was advised that they could not proceed until this detailed planning was done. Parks and the Parks Commission are providing more guidance to the group.
 - Maury Park Playground Update: Storm water runoff is being addressed on this park. Use of dry wells is being considered. Additional river rock stones were added to the surface of the lower end of Day St to slow down runoff.
 - Skating Rink: Jane Shelhorse mentioned the proposed project to build an outdoor skating rink at Dixon Park.

- Tree Fredericksburg Update: Anne Little provided the following updates:
 - Plantings are scheduled every Saturday during March, with the last planting on April 7th.
 - Some trees and shrubs are to be planted as part of the Face the River project down behind the Happy Clam Restaurant.
 - An Arbor Day event is scheduled at Hugh Mercer School, and will involve all of the students.
 - Ten river birch trees are going to be planted by Daisy Scouts in Old Mill Park.
 - Working with the school ground maintenance staff Tree Fredericksburg is going to be looking at several Willow Oaks recently planted at Walker Grant Center. These were planted too close to the building. The plan is to move these trees to new locations on the property.
- Tree Steward Program: Sally Hall provided the following update items relative to Tree Steward activities:
 - A new class of Tree Stewards has graduated.
 - Tree Stewards have provided 1,194.5 volunteer hours so far in the current year.
- Member Comments/Recommendations: None
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 10, 2018

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.