

Tree and Landscape March Minutes

Jessie Wagner	1	Ralph Weber	1
Gulizar Baggson	1	Jeannie McIntire	1
Ashley Harris		Mark Lankford	1
Nathan Lembke		Holly Hook	1
Geoffrey Braga	1	Emily Kroll	1
Taylor Allen	1	Shelli Kerr	1

I. Open Meeting

1. Jessie Wagner calls meeting to order, 10:04 AM.
2. **Approval of February Minutes.** Ralph Weber motions to approve the minutes, Gulizar Baggson seconds. All vote in favor.

II. New Business

1. **Tree Giveaway:** Map for tree giveaway displayed for comment, provided by Chris Earle with the Compost Facility. Gulizar Baggson raises point that the committee had discussed splitting the line to pick up the trees to direct traffic and that the current map does not allow for that. A request was made for a new map with division of traffic lines, to be distributed to the committee members before the next meeting. Jessie Wagner motions to approve the request for a new map, Ralph Weber seconds and the committee votes all in favor.
Discussion about volunteer requirements is started, particularly in light of the requirements of Meagan Love with Compton Gardens to tag the trees and distribute planting information. The committee discusses potential solutions, including arriving early to tag trees or tagging them as the trees are placed in cars. Concerns are raised about pre-tagging trees due to them being biodegradable and potentially being damaged. Decision was reached that legal should be consulted about the legality of distributing branded materials at the giveaway.
2. **Free Tree Friday:** Geoffery Braga presents on the viability of the Free Tree Friday event. Information from the partner organization distributing trees is presented, including concerns about scheduling a time for the event that works with the City's event structure during First Friday and the potential damage to the saplings. Discussion about the logistics of the event ensues, with key points being that the partner organization has already delayed communications on their requirements, the concerns about hosting a First Friday booth without materials to give away and engage the public, and the practical aspect of distributing seedlings so that they survive planting. In light of the conversation, Jessie Wagner suggests that it might be better to have a presence at a fall First Friday event rather than April so that logistics could be better planned. This planning would include materials such as seedlings, informational packets and schedule for the booth. The suggestion is made that in planning for the event, the committee should also discuss seed packet donations to the library as in former years. Jessie Wagner motions for a vote to move the First Friday event from April to October. Jeannie McIntire seconds, and the vote is all in favor.
3. **Tree Preservation Update [reordered from agenda item 4]:** Shelli Kerr presents the latest draft of the Tree Preservation Manual. In reviewing the latest version of the draft, contributed to by

Ralph Weber, it is confirmed that the Flowering White and Florida dogwood are the same species. No further amendments are suggested. Shelli Kerr asks for a recommendation that the manual should be sent on to City Council for approval. Gulizar Baggson motions to approve, Jessie Wagner seconds, the vote is all in favor.

4. **Proposal for Native Lawns [reordered from agenda item 3]:** The matter is introduced by Shelli Kerr for consideration. Currently code states that lawns must be cut to 8 inches, otherwise risking a violation. The purpose of the Native Lawns proposal is to allow those residents who wish to naturalize their lawns or to provide lawns for pollinators to do so without worry of a code violation. Gulizar Baggson requests more time for the committee to consider the matter. Jessie Wagner mentions that this should be an item to consider at the next meeting. Shelli Kerr agrees and welcomes any feedback or information on the topic from the committee. The item will be added to the April agenda.
5. **Other Business:** Taylor Allen informs the committee that staff was approached about a potential corporate partnership for a tree planting event and that the inquiry was passed along to the Parks Conservancy and Meagan Love who helps coordinate the Tree Giveaway. No further action needed.

III. Adjournment: Ralph Weber motions to adjourn, Gulizar Baggson seconds the motion, all vote in favor. Meeting is adjourned at 11:02 AM.