

Tree and Landscape 2024 August Minutes

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

1. Open Meeting – Ralph Weber brings meeting to order, 10:04.
 - a. New Member Introduction – Reagan Roth. Reagan introduces herself, giving information about her work background and interest in the work of the committee. Committee members introduce themselves.
 - b. Approval of July Minutes – Jeannie McIntire moves to approve, Gulizar Baggson seconds the motion, all vote in favor.
2. New Business
 - a. Tree Canopy Assessment – Staff gives update on the assessment, approved of by City Counsel on 8/13/24. Tasks within the request for proposal include canopy assessment, replanting guidelines and inventory of trees. Discussion ensues amongst the committee on the scope of work, and what role the Tree and Landscape Committee might play. As the assessment process commences, staff will look for opportunities to engage the committee. This is of particular interest when it comes to advising the city on replanting strategies and native species.
 - b. September Landscape Award – Prior to the vote on the September landscape award, the committee discusses what standards the members should consider while voting for the award. Some members indicate that they consider the overall look of the lawn, the diversity in planting, if landscaping is used to break up large areas of grass, and the presence of native species. On the topic of native lawns, the members discuss that native landscapes are a priority of the committee and perhaps could be encouraged. Because the city has not passed the native lawns ordinance that was discussed earlier in the year, some members indicate that they would not want to accidentally penalize landscape award applicants that live in POAs or HOAs that restrict their planting options. It is discussed that if judgment standards for the landscape awards are put in place, then those should be advertised on the city website where the nominations are submitted. Members will consider what priority award areas are, and if a list of landscape attributes should be posted as part of the competition. Reagan Roth mentions that there may be a way to include apartments or condos in the award process.

Discussion on how to raise awareness of the program ensues, including ideas on

displaying past winners on the website, increased social media presence, and neighborhood associations.

The committee will continue to discuss how the program should be updated when it resumes in the spring, until that time it will continue as currently designed to minimize confusion. Topics for consideration include award standards, local partnership opportunities, advertisement strategies, and if homeowners should be notified upon nomination (if feasible).

Discussion concluded, committee members cast their votes for the September landscape award. The winner is 306 SW 3rd Street. (See table below for vote totals.)

211 SW D	301 SE Eaton	306 SW 3 rd	311 NE 2 nd	1700 NW My.	2411 Rita Way
0	0	3	1	1	1

- c. Fall Tree Giveaway – Meagan Love has confirmed that nonprofits are eligible for trees, as discussed at the last committee meeting, Ashley Harris mentions that only nonprofit trees should be given out from remainder trees after residents have had the opportunity to get trees. Due to this, committee members discuss that the nonprofit time slot should be after 10am, and have a limit of up to five trees per nonprofit. They would need letters of determination as proof of identity and address.
 - d. Book and Seed Donation – The committee would like to perform a dedication ceremony to the library for the books and seeds. If possible, the committee members would like the September meeting to take place in the library. Staff will check with library staff on the possibility of both the dedication ceremony and the meeting location.
 - e. Other Business – Ralph Weber mentions that some of the fallen trees had been set aside for art. He asks is there would be an opportunity for tree cookies (ornaments made out of circular disks) to be made for the city square winter decorations. Emily Kroll mentions that the timeline and logistics of winter square decorations make that unlikely, but that there may be opportunities for the committee to purchase these circular disks for an activity, such as painting by school children, at other points during the year, perhaps Arbor Day.
3. Adjournment – Jeannie McIntire makes a motion to adjourn, Reagan Roth seconds. All vote in favor. Next meeting is September 19th, 2024. Meeting adjourned at 11:14.