

November 7, 2023 Draper Tree Committee meeting notes

Welcome and roll call

1. Approval of October 3, 2023 meeting minutes.
2. Public Education
 1. Localscapes
 1. Photos to put on our website and possibly addresses
 2. GardenTour planning
 3. Promotion of new landscaping codes and rebates
 2. Tree planting events
 1. Budget used/available
 2. Smaller neighborhood park plantings
 3. Websiteplans
 4. Draper Forward plans
3. City Updates
 1. Code adoption
 2. Community Development to adopt new street tree planting specs for developers
 3. Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District grant money and budget for city forester
 4. City projects
4. Adjournment

Committee Members:

David Cloward
Michelle Coker
Janet Simonich
Laura Bakker
Matt Evans
Walter Roseman
Jocelyn Kessler
Tasha Lowry
Rhett Ogden
Brent Williams
Taylor Parker
Maryann Pickering
Erica Zaugg

Attendees:

Maryann Pickering
Taylor Parker
Brent Williams
Rhett Ogden
Matt Evans
Michelle Coker
Janet Simonich

David Cloward
Laura Bakker
Tasha Lowry

Notes:

Member volunteer opportunity

- 1 opening right now, but we should have openings for four more people at the start of the year.
- 3 members that have not been attending

Meeting minutes were approved

Public Education

Localscapes

- Photos - Cynthia will create a photo album specifically for great examples and maybe great examples of Draper and we could get that posted to Draper site or a link
- Conservation Tour - we had 14 people showed up to the in person tour at the Conservation Garden
- For future classes, we should raise the registrant number since about half of the people show up
- Promotion of new Draper landscaping codes and rebates
- Jocelyn is getting Draper Forward dates
- Website - previous focus was tree guide and examples, now should shift to localscapes and water conservation and just links for tree information
 - link to gallery
 - link to new codes
 - prominent localscapes photos
 - prominent photo and promotion of local conservation garden

Tree planting event

- Confirmed with Tree Utah for Saturday April 27th
- 15 trees is probably the budget
- Smithfield Park is the obvious choice
- Maybe we plant less trees and spend part of the money on sprinkler changes
- We could advertise and solicit help with the local neighborhoods
- Issues with tree species that will do well and watering
 - We could try Poplars or Swamp White Oak or Bald Cypress - ask Tree Utah if they can source these
 - Maybe try different varieties to see what thrives and maybe a Willow down to where the water drains
 - We could change watering in the isolated sections behind the bleachers - remove the grass and install bubblers

- Investigate changing watering
 - Plan for ripping out turf
- 2" trees at least to survive kids hanging on them

Discussion about Community Development adoption of tree planting spec

- Maryann explained concerns that they don't want to adopt a spec that they won't have resources to inspect and enforce
- Maryann explained that they no longer can force developers to post bonds and thus they don't have leverage
- Dave explained that the city has had many specs for many years that they do not enforce and thus it isn't any different than before or current
- Dave explained that it is better to have the proper spec as part of the code to follow than to have nothing - even if we don't have the resources to enforce
- Dave explained that we could schedule a time for the street tree holes to be inspected the same way we do an electrical inspection

Jensen Farm Park - a few of the trees selected were suggested to replace with alternatives. Rhett asked for suggestions within the week

Draper Park South parking lot area - discussion about removing grass on the hill area and replace with shrubs and mulch. May be able to do mulch and shrubs, but issues of the plants being walked over.

Rotary Park - Thistlebend Disc Golf Course

Review whether they can run water or not, so we need to make two different suggestions:

- Option A - suggestions of trees that could survive with 5 years of water
- Option B - suggestions of trees without water

13800 South - new section to be done next year. Need recommendations in January

Actions:

1. Michelle to follow up with Cynthia on getting Draper photo examples
2. Jocelyn to get Draper Forward deadline dates
3. Michelle and Jocelyn to work together on website content for city employees
4. Matt to follow up on budget and use of that budget with Tree Utah
5. Brent and Taylor to look at opportunities to change irrigation for trees in Smithfield Park and to remove sod in sections
6. Janet, Laura and Michelle to provide tree suggestions for Jensen Farm Park and Rotary park