

TOQUERVILLE CITY TREE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 6:00 PM
Held at 212 N. Toquerville Blvd, Toquerville Utah

Attendance: Councilmen: Brad Langston, Renee Garner, Tami Young, Lori Wrangle, Bruce Jones, Wayne Olsen, Caleen Olsen, Mike Crockett, Chris Mc Neil, and Jeff Meyers.

6:00 pm: Councilman Brad Langston opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

1. Brad opened the discussion of the City Park Mulberry trees being trimmed in the Pollard method. Wayne Olsen of the Park Committee informed us that their committee had chosen Mulberries for their large size at maturity. This trimming style creates a ball tree look at the best. He expressed concern that the pruning was so severe the trees may not survive. Mike Crockett worried that this happened again after the public uproar of trimming the trees along Toquerville Blvd for the Water Project in 2013.

Brad stated that the trimming was a mistake. The Staff member did not get approval to trim the trees in that style or manner.

Discussion on whether the trees would survive and if we should remove them now to replant healthy trees, or if we should plant new trees in between the current ones. Renee was assigned to call Arborist Danon Hulet of Urban Forestry and ask him to look at the trees and give his recommendation.

2. Discussion of tree grant proposal:

- A. Toquerville Blvd: Brad questioned if we could include the Blvd trees into any project where we're requesting a grant for matching funds from Tree City. Renee was assigned to contact Merideth Perkins to find out if trees that are privately owned may be included in a project. The City does have a safety responsibility for the trees but is not responsible for full maintenance, watering and mulching, etc. Tami reminded us that there were about 15 trees missing that we could plant but we need to teach the home owners to care for them.

Jeff Meyers wanted to have his sidewalk repaired and was willing to assist. Discussion included Scout project assistance.

Bruce read from code that the definition of "public trees" was any tree within 10 feet of the road. Renee showed him section W which exempts "grandfathered" trees older than 2010. Discussion on informing the public and teaching care eventually led to agreement to have the next meeting on March 26th. The meeting would be an open house/ public forum with Danon Hulet as speaker at 6:00 pm and our Board meeting after at 7:00 pm. Renee was asked to contact Danon and ask him if he could come. Subjects would include watering and tree care. Standard notices would be posted and Board members were asked to get the word out verbally to their neighbors. Tami and Brad volunteered to bring three dozen cookies each, and Lori said she'd bring something.

- B. Cemetery Project: Brad explained that there were trees that needed removing from the Cemetery and other areas that needed to have trees planted. We'd need to decide about tree variety and placement.
- C. Shangri-La Project: Brad told us that the new side walk going up Shangri-La to Toquerville Heights area has a line for a drip. He suggested that area for next year's project.
- D. Trees in the City Ball field along the fence and trees along the trail in Trail Ridge were also discussed as possible projects.

The Board chose Shangri-La as the 2015-16 project. The sidewalk was recently put in for the children that come down that road to wait for the bus. The Board liked the idea of shade trees for those children. Brad said if Tree City agrees we'll add those 15 trees along Toquer Blvd to the project.

The Tree Grant will be written by City staff, possibly Randy Johnson, and reviewed and approved by the Tree Board.

Summary written by Renee Garner, Board Member

Follow up: Arborist Danon Hulet has agreed to be our guest speaker at the March 26th meeting. That meeting will be a public educational opportunity. He inspected the City Park trees that had been severely pruned and felt that due to the warm weather and the severity of the cut, we could lose them. He recommended that we wait and see. He advised against tarring the cuts. The Mulberry will not need that to protect it from disease. He has called Merideth Perkins of Tree City and informed us that the Boulevard trees, as private property, cannot be a part of a grant project but can be a part of our matching funds for a grant.