

October 4, 2022 Draper Tree Committee meeting notes

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of July 5, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Public Education

1. Report on Fall Localscapes class series
2. Report on Tree planting class and posting of material
3. Discussion about future class series

Learnings from Lagoon field trip

1. Resiliency and growth of trees surrounded by asphalt or cement

Drought discussion

1. Other opportunities for waterwise planning and codes.
2. Adoption of Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District recommendations

City Updates

1. City Code Changes
2. JVWCD Requirements and Rebate Programs
3. City Hall Landscape
4. Tree Projects
5. Parks and Recreation Conservation Garden

Follow up on Action Items not already covered

Adjournment

Attendees:

David Cloward

Lauara Bakker

Matt Evans

Tasha Lowery

Eric Lundell

Lisa Wilcox

Taylor Parker

Brent Williams

Fred Aegerter

Rhett Ogden

Janet Simonich

Jocelyn Kessler

Notes:

Public education

Dave summarized a report on the Localscapes classes. They were well attended and successful.

Dave and Laura Bakker reported on the Tree planting class that was well attended and successful.

We agreed that we should do these same series of Localscapes and Tree selection/planting and care/pruning next year

We agreed we should Post Larura's presentation to the website - Dave to follow up with Josh

We discussed that we had Podcast with the Mayor about the tree committee and related subjects for Draper. It went well and a lot of people saw the announcement and listened to it

Lisa asked about the publicizing and if we had signs up for the events. We explained that we didn't do signs because it was too late once we discussed it (after not having a meeting), but we all felt the Draper city text and email of events was quite successful.

It was pointed out that at the classes, we do need IT support for set up ; one of the classes did not have it and we started late as a result.

Discussion about Lagoon learnings

- We discussed how well the trees are doing in some very surprising and adverse conditions - specifically trees that had asphalt or concrete up the bases of the tree and trees that had planters built around them with soil three feet up the trunks! The only explanations are good soil and a higher water table. This may have implications for our struggles with street trees being planted in roadbase. This is one of the main goals of the committee

Goals of committee

- Public education
- City beautification and enjoyment from planting trees alongside streets, in parks and along trails, and encouraging citizens to plant trees

Discussion about planting street trees in roadbase

- Discussed examples of 13800 South and the success other cities are having - it is possible to do it right
- Dave suggested we create a dedicated sub-committee - Dave to try to organize

Holladay Tree planting program

- Tasha thought there was a grant for trees maybe funded by Ivory - Tasha to reach out to Drew - her contact in Holladay
- Matt Evans to work with Tasha and follow up with Ivory

Discussion about city ordinances and adoption of JVWCD guidelines

- Fred said the issue is simply that we don't have resource to work on city codes; Need more than just internal staff
- Fred said city council has appropriated money for resources for updating zoning ordinances

- Dave explained that JWCDC has grant money available specifically to fund a headcount; Fred to follow up on the grant money

City hall landscape

- Rhett gave an update - West side first, then East side. Todd is the point on it
- Decided to just replace the trees and concrete, not all of the plants, just some of them

Other city updates/projects:

- No other tree projects coming up this year
- Highland Drive trees were removed for the expanded traffic intersection. Dave asked if the city could replace trees farther into the hillside to replace all the trees that were cut down. Tasha to look into that.

Parks and Rec conservation garden and other projects

- Bids to go out this month for next spring
- Got funding for Jordan Rotary park - doing new landscaping next spring and will ask committee for inputs
- RFP for new park - Jensen Farms in West Draper

Discussion about Globe willow for Christmas tree

- Other Globe willows were planted to replace the one that will eventually die in the next 5 years. Laura expressed concern about replacing a short lived tree with the exact same thing. A lot of discussion as to whether we should start identifying another replacement that exists today and then plant other future alternatives such as a large evergreen; we could even buy a 25 foot tall tree with a spade.
- Potentially bring photos of next potential Christmas trees to next council meeting
- We should be watering the Globe willow and other trees we are worried about through the winter with culinary water.

Actions:

1. Michelle Coker to follow up with Cynthia Bee at JWCDC about scheduling another series of classes next year
2. Josh or Lisa to work with Linda to post Laura's presentation
3. Dave to explore sub-committee for managing roadbase and planting street trees according to spec
4. Dave to explore contacts with other cities on how they plant street trees
5. Fred to follow up on the JWCDC grant money opportunity
6. Tasha to look into whether the city could replace trees cut down on Highland Drive by planting further into the hillside
7. Explore Christmas tree options - Tasha may bring up with the council