

Tree Commission

September 5, 2017 Minutes

Attending: Paul Josey, Lynne Rush, Laura Knott, Brian Menard, Rosanne Simon, Roxanne White, Ineke Dickman, Mark Rylander, Peggy Van Yahres, Peter Russell

Staff: Brian Daly, Mike Ronayne, Jeanette Janiczek, Brian Haluska

Guests: Jennifer (UVA Economics Student), Sal (consultant)

Approve August minutes: No comments.

Belmont Bridge Presentation - Sal, Jeanette

The Belmont Bridge concept is reviewed. The concept will go to council in October and the design will go for public hearing in Spring of 2018. There were questions regarding the 3' median width required for the bike lane. Tree Commission would like to see this space utilized for soil volume for tree planting. This 3' width was chosen as a result of best management practices and safety for bike and vehicles given the grade and traffic speed of the bridge. The Planning Commission advised that London plane tree be removed from the species list for this project but Tree Commission advises it be put back on the planting palette. The Tree Commission advised reduced use of red maples. There was discussion regarding the use of green screens on the project. Jeanette will be submitting the scope of potential green screen along bridge. The Tree Commission suggested using evergreens in the landscape planting beds in order to break up the bridge image.

FY 2019 CIP Request - Brian

The four separate CIP requests regarding trees are reviewed. This year's requests will be separated by, Citywide Tree Planting, Downtown Mall Tree Preservation Planning, Tree Maintenance and Management (non-Mall) and Downtown Mall Trees Active Lifecycle Management. The narrative portions of these requests are reviewed. Interest rates can be added into next CIP requests if these projects are accepted and funded. The question was raised how much coordination should be made between these CIP requests and the Cultural Landscape Preservation Plan. They are independent but related entities and it may be beneficial to correlate Mall item requests together with the Cultural Landscape Preservation Plan.

Tree Commission suggested the following changes:

Move to the beginning of narrative, need for 'ongoing funding support.'

For the Mall trees related funding, to put emphasis on that "These trees are in a special place and need extra management, attention and care."

To also stress the economic importance of the Mall trees.

Put more emphasis on recurring nutrient and pesticide applications on Mall trees.

Remove "small" diameter tree replacement to simply tree replacement.

To separate Mall trees from Corner trees to strengthen argument.

Arborist's Tree Planting Bid Package Schedule

The revised planting list of 88 trees is reviewed. There were some concerns about using Chinese elm in Quarry Park as the Charlottesville Master Tree List suggests reduced use of this species. Parks Dept. will consider alternatives.

Park's has received a proposal approximately \$18,000.00 to locate underground utilities at Westhaven. As this will exceed the cost of planting the 40 trees. Tree Commission agrees that this is excessive and Parks will work internally with other City departments to try to locate the utilities. Parks will plan on ordering trees to plant at Westhaven at this time.

Schenck's Branch Planting list is reviewed. There is concern about the two ivory silk trees that are going in. Tree Commission requests that they be subbed for another native, utility friendly tree like redbud. Parks will check to see if they are required to match exactly what species came out as per contract for utility work. After discussion, Tree Commission finds the Norway spruce acceptable for screening.

Report and Recommendation from the Data Committee – Moved to October meeting

Updates

Development and Code Committee Report – Moved to October meeting

Mall Trees– No update. Staff is still waiting on follow-up report from Jim Urban

Other items not on agenda

CAT's will be unavailable to assist with tree planting Oct 14, Nov 4, Nov 3.

Ineke and Mike will get together to replace and install new tree labels in the JPA Utility Friendly Arboretum.

Meeting outcomes:

- Brian will explore options to locate utilities with City departments for Westhaven tree planting
- Parks will check to see if Ivory Silk tree is required on Schenck's replanting.
- Tree Commission will submit additional comments to Brian regarding CIP request prior to end of month
- Jeanette will forward the Commission the scope of the green screen along Belmont Bridge
- Mark will forward information regarding the zoning meeting on Monday the 11th at 4pm with the Strategic Investment Group that will be in town.

Next agenda items: Data Committee report and recommendations, Quarterly updates from Standing Committees, Review Final Planting List and Schedule, Review requested operating budget from Parks and Rec

Adjourn 7:02