

# BRIGHAM CITY

## URBAN BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

### Minutes for Tuesday, January 09, 2018

Present: Evan Nelson, Chair  
Marie Black, Vice-Chair  
Beth Allen, Commission Member  
Kris Nelson, Commission Member  
Karen Nisonger, Commission Member

City Staff: Tyler Pugsley, Public Works Director  
Ryan Abraham, Cemetery/Parks Supervisor  
Tony Ekins, Assistant Planner/Code Services Coordinator  
Jolene Crockett, Administrative Assistant

Excused: Ruth Jensen, Council Member  
Sharon Griggs, Commission Member

#### **Introduction of new UBC Member:**

City Staff and UBC Members introduced themselves to Kris Nelson and welcomed her to the commission.

#### **Nomination of Chair/Vice-Chair:**

Beth Allen nominated Evan Nelson for Chair of the UBC, second by Marie Black, motion carried.

Kris Allen nominated Marie Black for Vice-Chair of the UBC, second by Beth Allen, motion carried.

#### **Suggestion for New Members:**

Director Pugsley asked Ms. Crockett how many openings we now have on the Commission. She replied, two. Chairman Nelson and Commissioner Allen stated they both may have names. Director Pugsley requested that they provide these names to Ms. Crockett and she will forward the names to the Mayor's Office as a recommendation.

#### **Grant Update:**

Director Pugsley explained that last year we applied for a grant in connection with our sesquicentennial celebration. This grant provided trees for the sports complex and pickle ball courts. He said that Ms. Crockett and Supervisor Abraham submitted another grant to the same group, which is the Utah Division of Forest, Fire & State Lands for the 2017-2018 Community Forestry Partnership Grant to replace the trees in the downtown area which was awarded.

Director Pugsley said we had old columnar maples which were struggling and needed to be replaced. The UBC voted to replace the trees with a columnar zelkova and as they died we replaced them. These trees have all done well.

Supervisor Abraham stated we were awarded \$8000 total, with a match. The match includes cost of trees and labor, etc. Chairman Nelson asked if the grant was continual.

Supervisor Abraham said that he has learned, as it goes along, they may not. Director Pugsley stated one issue is they don't like all the same species.

### **Arbor Day Event:**

Director Pugsley said, in the past, we understood we needed to have the Arbor Day event with an elementary school. This has become increasingly difficult. We learned that we do not necessarily need to include an elementary school. We can pick a day and invite the community to attend. Promontory School helped us last year. As staff we will handle the event similar to last year. Advertise on social media, City website.

Chairman Nelson asked if we are we going to include the community and identify places where the public could help. Director Pugsley said it is a bit more difficult because of Main Street pedestrian and auto traffic. Chairman Nelson said the Downtown Association would like this downtown event. Chairman Nelson will talk to David Walker.

Commissioner Allen asked if we wanted a program. Director Pugsley stated when Supervisor Abraham reports when we can get the trees, we can pick a date. It probably works better for Supervisor Abraham's schedule to get this done in the April time frame.

### **Tree Removals**

#### **Cedar Tree Removal**

Commissioner Allen asked what the complaints were that she is reading in the BENJ regarding trees at the cemetery being removed. Director Pugsley reviewed the Cedar Tree Removal Project with the Commission members. He also stated that we have individuals interested in the wood and that this wood will be sold in a City surplus sale.

Director Pugsley explained that at times tree removals have a lot of community attention such as the sycamore tree removals in the parking strip in front of the LDS Temple. When this happens we bring the request to the commission. Otherwise we handle the removals through Public Works.

Director Pugsley stated we received many requests for tree removals. If the tree is dead we will approve removal at City expense. If it is viable but a nuisance it will be approved for removal at the homeowner's expense or the request will be denied. All of these choices are under the City Forester's discretion. Always, when a tree is removed in the park strip, the City Forester will require that a replacement tree be planted. It doesn't necessarily have to be in the same place or home from which it was removed but a new tree must be planted. This helps us to maintain our urban green space.

Director Pugsley said that Public Works have been removing nuisance trees on our dirt lanes. The Russian Olive trees have been labeled as a nuisance tree and we have been working on removing them from City properties.

### **Other Business:**

- Commissioner Allen stated the garden club asked her to write up a report on what our City did with our last Arbor Day event and submit it to the state. She said they received first place in the western region! The Commission Members congratulated Commissioner Allen on the award.

- Director Pugsley stated that he, Ms. Crockett and Supervisor Abraham worked on the Tree City USA application and submitted it in December. He explained this designation to the group.
- Discussion regarding Main Street sycamore tree life span and health.
- Director Pugsley explained we are using our own programming to identify and input tree species. He stated with our capabilities we should be able to use our City GIS system. We had an intern gather information and input. All the trees planted on Arbor Day were inputted. The information, once they are done, will be an asset to our urban forest program. Supervisor Abraham said this would also help with grants.