

## MINUTES

### PAYETTE COMMUNITY FORESTRY COMMITTEE

September 20, 2011

3:10 P.M.

#### ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Gene Gray, Curt Van Patten, Larry Kelly, and Dick Bronson (arrived 3:15 P.M.), were present.

Members Absent: Tony Mell, Randy Fales

Staff Present: Darrell Kainoa, Mary Cordova and Becky Lynch

General Public Present: None

Mary Cordova noted that the minutes of August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 need to be corrected by deleting her name from being present at the meeting when she was in fact, not present.

Curt Van Patten made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Larry Kelley and passed unanimously.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- A. Payette Community Forestry Ordinance: Mr. Gray wanted to have it on record that he had provided extra copies of the proposed Payette Community Forestry Ordinance to those who didn't have any. He would like for the members present at the meeting to take home and review the ordinance with corrections Mr. Gray had made.
- B. Trees in right of ways: Gene Gray stated that he tried to talk with INLA, Idaho nursery landscape association, and had unimpressive enthusiasm after speaking with them. Gene Gray stated that he talked with Gerry Bates and suggested a full day seminar somewhere in the Treasure Valley in regards to right of ways and trees. Gerry Bates was thinking of bringing municipal and property specialists if such seminar were to occur. Curt Van Patten opened up a new subject stating that he spoke with Galen Wright and he deals with the cities on the coast, stated what Attorney Bert Osborn was saying, which is if the city plants it the city maintains it, and if the property owner plants it the property owner maintains it. If the property owner's tree is a nuisance, the city can go after the property owner with a nuisance law.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- A. Update on Sweet Gum Tree @ Central Park: Darrel Kainoa opened the discussion telling the committee that the contractors keep moving the hoses for the Gum Tree located in Central Park. He went on to inform the committee that they have gone and checked on this Gum Tree several different times to be sure it was still being watered, and each time they had found the hose coiled up and moved off to the side. Gene Gray asked Darrel if Randy or himself had gone and spoken with the contractors of the issue. Mary Cordova spoke with the contractor and the architect, and it is our responsibility to keep those watered, so if we are having a problem with the hose being moved or the water not getting on the tree it is still our responsibility to do as much as we can do to be sure the tree is watered. Mary Cordova stated that the contract specifically has the tree listed to make sure we are compensated for that tree at the end of the project; those trees are in the contract to be preserved.
- B. Forest Management Plan: Gene Gray informed the committee that Bobbie Black and he had put the Forest Management Plan together and asked if anyone in the meeting had a chance to review that plan. Curt Van Patten said that it looked good to him. Would like to put this as old business for the next meeting, the rewrite of City tree ordinance and the discussion of the Forest Management Plan. Gene Gray wants to start taking 2-3 items at a time divide it up and tweak the points of the given plan.
- C. Trees at Fire Station: Mary Cordova stated that Bobbie Black has been working hard on this project; both Bobbie and Randy Fales went to the Fruitland Nursery and picked out some trees. Larry Kelley stated that the trees should not be fruit bearing, because it would cause a mess. The proposed plan of where the trees will be located was provided at the meeting on map, and from there was a general discussion.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION

- A. Gateway Park Tree Vandalism: Gene Gray opened this general discussion stating that Randy had asked him to go down to the south end of Gateway Park to look at the vandalism on the trees happening there. Darrel Kainoa stated that the parks department goes down and mows the park twice a week, Mondays and Thursdays. Monday they spent 40 plus minutes picking up garbage from the soccer field and found a bunch of broken limbs all over the ground, and fresh carvings on the trees. He went on to mention that there was a couple who were walking by, and told the seasonal workers that they are tired of people using the ditch to do their business rather than use the porta-potty that is provided there. Gene Gray stated to Mary that this should be the Parks and Recreation Committee's item to discuss. Gene Gray suggested that maybe we could put signs on the trees to state both in

English and in Spanish, "These trees belong to you, help protect them". Gene Gray stated that they had signs on the trees over in Gateway Park at one time, which seemed to help in the past. The concern for most of the vandalism being done in Gateway Park is from the Aztec soccer league. Mary Cordova stated that the clerk's office is in the process of sending a letter to the Aztec league of their continued complaints of vandalism in the park.

- B. City Clerk Report: Mary Cordova stated a few new happenings at the City. The City Council approved an agreement with the Idaho Transportation Department, ITD, for a new stop light at highway 95 and existing highway 52 with no plans to re-route at this time. The Rose Advocates building is out for bid, which will be open for bid on October 6, 2011. The City Council approved the budget; we are able to lower our levy rate even lower than last year. The parks department was not affected by the budget; and Mary stated that she would like to thank the parks crew because they care so much about what they do and they do a great job.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- A. Signage for trees in Gateway Park

The next meeting will be held October 18, 2011, at 3:00 pm at Payette City hall.

Larry Kelley made a motion to adjourn at 3:44 pm. The motion was seconded by Curt VanPatten and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Recording Secretary  
Becky Lynch