



Landscape Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting May 17, 2023
Virtual Teams Meeting

Pursuant to safe practices during the COVID 19 pandemic, all in-person public meetings are cancelled until further notice. This meeting will be held virtually to allow for healthy practices and social distancing. All materials related to the agenda items will be distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. Meeting materials will also be presented as part of the virtual meeting.

Members Present: Nichole Casebeer, Rebeca Field, Darbi Davis (logged on @ 3:44 p.m.), Alison Meadow, Jenni Moscato, Ron van Ommeren, Flor Sandoval, Kasy Schug, Nick Shipley,

Members Absent:

Guests/Staff Speaker: Nicole Gillett, CMO; Ann Audrey, consultant; Erin Posthumus, UArizona SNR&E, Outreach Coordinator & liaison to USFWS; AJ Ragnow, AJ the Arborist Co.; Emma Stahl-Wert. Landscape contractor/certified arborist/water harvesting design/install; GeeGee Larington; Irene Ogata, TW

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by R.van Ommeren; verbal roll call – 9 members present, quorum present (D.Davis logged on 3:44 p.m.)

2. Minutes and LAR for Approval

- Motion to approve April 19, 2023 minutes and Legal Action Report by K.Schug, second by R.Field; no discussion; motion passed: verbal aye/approved=9, no=0, abstain=0

3. Discussion

- A. Blue Palo Verde Testing Discussion: Moratorium was lifted at last meeting; N.Shipley discussion of Civano's growing protocol: (1) need to start with clean seed, mother tree should be tested annually (2) clean nursery – do not bring stock from other nurseries (3) spray every 2 weeks (4) sterilize equipment between trees, SaniDate (5) dispose of whole plant if find witches broom, bag and dispose off property, (6) log and method of disposal; make protocol available to other nurseries. Discussion: get memo out to ANA and recommended protocol: may have some middle steps missing, how to find mother tree, why is rotating miticides important, what would city need – need to check with staff purchasing; usually very obvious within short period of time if tree has witches broom as it will be the new growth; who on city end will keep an eye on the new growth?; good to have higher criteria for what sorts of tree are being installed in the city; subcommittee to discuss protocol – Rebeca, Nick, Jenny; try to get into ANA and ALCA newsletter
- B. LAC open member positions: 2 positions = Educator and Contractor: meeting with 3 applicants today. Contractor=Emma Stahl-Wert- focused on rainwater harvesting 809 years, certified arborist, interest in big picture, was part of WMG Monsoon Squad, did rough draft of city's tree care; Contractor= AJ Ragnow – certified arborist, tree work for 5 years, also contracted in Seattle and Denver, bilingual, educate companies how little needs to be pruned, boots on the ground experience, this committee

experience is new to me; Educator=Erin Posthumus, environmental biology, working with USA Phenology Network, projects with Tucson Audubon, volunteers with Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, puts together training material, how to do data collection, reports to public, work on a wide range of projects from local to state to federal level, lots of science communications and interpretations. Discuss candidate recommendations next meeting.

- C. Urban Forest Action Plan: any additional feedback for Nicole; would like support of plan from LAC; this is a Plan, does not include implementation. Discussion: general like the plan, future will have additional materials to educate public. Motion to support the Draft Urban Forestry Action Plan by A.Meadow, second by R.Field; passed 9-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain (D.Davis left).
- D. LAC Ad Hoc Committee Updates: No Updates.
- E. City Updates: DTM D.Marhefka provided updates to various roadway, including resurfacing projects and need to prune trees due to accessibility of re-pavement machines, D.Marhefka overseeing contractors.

4. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events:

- May/June workshops by SERI for Rainwater Harvesting on website
- 411 opening celebration at McCormick Park, May 18 @ 8 a.m.

5. Call to Audience (time permitting): no comments

6. Future Agenda Items:

- LAC candidate review and recommendations for Educator and Landscape Contractor position
- Blue Palo Verde protocol subcommittee update
- Removal of irrigation from new city plans – are there other options
- Parks & Rec Green Space mapping, future item – August/September
 - Heidi Brown & Bo Yang: CLIMAS (Parks and Rec on Green Space mapping)

7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm