

Tukwila Tree and Environment Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

Meeting 5, January 23, 2013

Committee Members in Attendance: Sean Albert, Nancy Eklund, Christian Faltenberger, Sharon Mann, Don Scanlon, Heidi Watters Kathleen Wilson

Committee Members Absent: Stephen Reilly, De'Sean Quinn

Members of the Public in Attendance: Eli Brocker

Staff in Attendance: Carol Lumb, Sandra Whiting, Nora Gierloff

The meeting began at 5:40 p.m.

Topics of Discussion:

1. Welcome to Committee members and visitors. Nora Gierloff filled in for Chairperson De'Sean Quinn.
2. Public comment: (Time is set aside at the beginning of each meeting for brief public comments; the Committee is meeting in work session format, therefore, questions or comments from the public that come up during the course of the meeting should be directed to staff via e-mail or telephone calls after the meeting. These communications will be passed along to the Committee)

Eli Brocker introduced himself – he is a City employee who works at the golf course, however he is finishing up a degree in environmental studies at Green River Community College and has an interest in environmental and tree issues. He had no comments or questions for the Committee.

3. Check-in with Committee members: The Chair asked if Committee members have any questions or comments from the previous meeting that they wanted to discuss

There was no follow up questions/comments from the last meeting.

4. Housekeeping:
 - Staff confirmed that the Committee's meeting day will move to the second Wednesday of the month beginning with the March meeting. The February meeting will be Wednesday, **February 27th** and the March meeting will be Wednesday, **March 13th**.
 - The Committee approved the meeting notes from the 12-19-12 meeting with no corrections/revisions.
5. Natural Environment Chapter Goals: The Committee continued its review the revised Natural Environment goals and revisions to the goals. The committee provided the following direction:
 - Organization/Structure: each goal should have the applicable policies follow it, rather than grouping them all together after the goals;
 - There don't seem to be policies to implement the second goal on page 1;
 - Start numbering the goals and policies to make it easier to reference;
 - Review the two new policies on page 2 for appropriate location;

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- Develop a goal that addresses climate change/global warming – an aspirational statement
- Have an overall goal regarding stewardship and education, then in each subsection, include a policy that references back to the Stewardship section
- Pros/cons of allowing mitigation to be located outside Tukwila and fee-in-lieu programs – the committee recommended including as policies, exploring the topics of fee-in-lieu mitigation
- Include a policy to assist property owners interested in using their property for off-site wetland mitigation
- Include policies or a policy to establish incentive programs to encourage property owners to steward their sensitive areas, use low impact development techniques, etc. Make sure one of the goals or policies addresses water quality of storm water that flows in ditches to City's streams or directly to Green/Duwamish River.
- There was a great deal of discussion on whether to allow pesticides to be used in buffers – no consensus from Committee on whether to change the language or take both viewpoints forward.
- The Committee will not deal with open space issues, given that the Department of Parks and Recreation is beginning a planning effort to update the current Parks and Open Space Plan.

In the interest of moving the process forward, staff asked that the Committee review the revisions to be sent out as a result of this meeting and also look at the sections of the Natural Environment Chapter that have not yet been discussed, and submit comments in writing to staff, rather than discussing them at the next meeting.

8. The meeting closed at 7:50 pm.

9. **Action Items for staff follow-up:**

- a. Staff will re-organize the Chapter to place policies after the goals they implement;
- b. Staff will draft a goal that uses aspirational language to address climate change/global warming
- c. Language revisions will be made to goals/policies as directed by the Committee
- d. The Powerpoint presentation on the City's Sensitive Areas Ordinance that was presented to the Committee at Meeting 3 will be provided to those members that missed the meeting.
- e. The report prepared to support the City's designation of properties that could be used for off-site mitigation will be provided to the committee.
- f. Provide reminder to committee members to submit written comments to staff on the new revisions and the topic areas not yet discussed in committee meetings.

The February 27th meeting will begin the discussion on urban forestry – there will be a presentation on the City's tree ordinance and a presentation on other jurisdictions' tree regulations and tree programs.