

Tree Commission  
March 15, 2010

Present: Brian Allen, Christine Penney, Margi Preus, Jim Larson, Ethan Perry

Absent: Rick Gitar, Kelly Fleissner,

meeting called to order: 7:05

January minutes approved  
(no February minutes, as there was not a regular meeting and no quorum)

regarding Jan. minutes.

Jim Larson reported that the Skyline Pkwy people canceled the scheduled drive; he has emailed them regarding his availability.

Trees in the News:

2 Ethan brought up Christine's interview on WDIO regarding UDC and tree ordinance

Tree Ordinance

- 3 Ethan reported on meeting with Dan Hartman (with Jim) and Jim Stauber (with Christine, Brian and Margi)  
4 we should get the ordinance before the council; it's dragged on due to waiting for attorney's language; also we didn't put a lot of pressure on the office  
5 we should get it on the Council agenda.  
6 also met with Kerry Gauthier  
7 discussion of heritage trees –what would qualify: elms in front of Gitchigami Club, the hemlock(s) on Tischer Creek—one is right off the lakewalk extension.

UDC

- 8 Ethan says it sounds like it might be June before the next draft is ready for review. Not final until the city council votes on it. we can make additional comments whenever we want.

Sky Harbor

- 9 Jim reported on final scoping document, bringing in a chart that showed the alternatives and numbers of trees cut.  
10 represents significant difference from the original  
11 alt 12: 152 pines out of 193 would have to be cut or significantly topped  
12 alt. 13: 38 pines out of 43 trees " " " " "  
13 Jim is concerned that in the scoping doc. and EA, the intent is that they will only cut trees in the approach, but that is pending the FAA study. If FAA says that they have to cut in the transitional zone, that represents many hundreds of trees (alt. 12: 834 trees) (alt. 13: 707)  
14 Jim: what percent of the forest does this impact? this question doesn't seem to be

addressed.

15 another question: who owns the land that is not marked as owned by anyone. also no trees are marked in this area, although it's still in the transition zone? Map shows a right angle that doesn't make sense in the transition zone.

16 Christine: why is so much money being spent on 52 people (the number of pilots who switch from float to wheeled planes, which is the only reason this airport is needed (?))

17 she suggests we write a letter to councilors.

18 at the Park Point meeting, attendees brought up questions of: language in FAA documents that suggests exceptions in special cases. doesn't this qualify as a special case? and what about numbers? how much revenue does the airport bring to the city; as opposed to how much support, in dollars, does the city give the airport?

19

EAB

20 we discussed the document Judy Gibbs assembled based on EAB plans in other cities. we will make comments on the document and email them to Christine who will assemble and send to Judy.

meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.