

Natural Resources Commission

Meeting Minutes November 4, 2020 (WebEx)

Attendance:

Commissioners: Judy Gibbs, Brandon Krumwiede, John Lindgren, Nancy Schuldt, Tiffany Sprague, Brian Fredrickson, Mike Schrage, Brandon Van Tassel. **Absent:** Mike Pennington

City Staff: Diane Desotelle, Natural Resources Coordinator; Jennifer Ondrik, Administrative Clerical Specialist; Clark Christenson, City Forester; Jim Filby Williams, Director of Property, Parks & Libraries.

Call to Order:

The meeting started at 6:06 p.m.

Hartley Native Plant Community Management Plan

The virtual stakeholder meeting on October 21st was well received and participants responded well to the draft plan as presented. Doug Mensing (Applied Ecological Services) updated the Commission on the project structure, timeline and implementation costs and phasing. There was a lengthy discussion on the overall project costs associated with the long-term vegetative maintenance. Following this meeting, the draft plan will be posted on the website and edits / suggestions will be collected and incorporated throughout the month. The Commission will have a chance to review the final plan and will vote for adoption in December.

Natural Resource Coordinator Report (Diane Desotelle)

Diane informed the Commission to send comments to her, via email, on the draft Hartley Management Plan. No other updates were provided.

Forester's Report (Clark Christenson)

Clark reported that the Pine Thinning Project has been put on hold during the pandemic and he will revisit the coordination in the spring. Clark is still putting pen-to-paper on an Urban Forest Management Plan. Work continues on the Ash removals and EAB was found to be more prevalent than originally thought. Lastly, Clark shared that two additional full-time employees were hired in Park Maintenance!

Directors Report (Jim Filby Williams – Director of Property, Parks, & Libraries)

Director Filby Williams updated the Commission on the status of the tax-forfeit land swap with St. Louis County. The City is in the process of solidifying its funding sources, finalizing goals on parcel selection, and developing an agreement with the County that establishes a process to convey the land.

Announcements

None

Adjournment:

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47, M/S/C.