

Maui County Arborist Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2014

1. Call to order
2. Meeting of minutes—copies unavailable.
3. Public testimony
 - a. Cheryl McGrath reported that there will be a workshop and educational show called Tree Circus for children to learn about trees. The tentative dates are November 5, 6, and 7. Any questions can be addressed to Elaine Malina of Maui Green & Beautiful. The presentation has been done for the past two years on Oahu. This will be the first time for Maui.
 - b. Malama the Trees workshop will be held on November 8, 2014. The content has yet to be determined.
 - c. Cheryl McGrath is a newly-elected member of the board of Maui Green & Beautiful.
4. Meeting business
 - a. Approval of minutes—copies unavailable. Item deferred until minutes are generated.
5. Unfinished business
 - a. Viewpoint article—Richie Campas has revised the draft based on the committee's input at the July meeting. He provided the draft for review and discussion. Suggestions included creating bullet points to ease the reading as well as additional language. Once it is completed, he will submit to The Maui News as a personal letter from Richie.
 - b. Costco palms—deferred.
 - c. Staff support—The chair was told by Bradley Pierce that there will be a dedicated staff person for the September meeting.
 - d. Keopuolani Park planting—The committee awaits word from the Interim Director regarding the scheduling and implementation of this project.
 - e. Exceptional Tree nominations-- Surveys confirming property ownership are needed before the nomination can be sent to Council member Don Guzman. Public Works will survey the fourteen Kihei monkey pods. The ownership of the Honoapiilani Highway and High Street monkey pods in Wailuku needs to be confirmed with the State Department of Transportation. Jeannie Pezzoli moved to transmit a letter to Public Works and to the State Department of Transportation requesting a determination on the respective trees' location. It was seconded by William Jacintho and passed unanimously.
 - f. Maui County Planting Plan—The directors of Public Works, Planning, and Parks will meet on August 14, 2014 to discuss their comments. Jeff Ueoka, Corporation Counsel, provided an overview of his comments and suggested changes which mainly focus on legality and form. The committee will be provided with an edited version of the incorporated comments at the September meeting.
6. New business
 - a. EAR committee of the Council—A proposed bill was reviewed that would provide opportunities for volunteers to maintain, beautify, preserve and improve county playing fields, parks and beaches. The intent is to promote and encourage volunteerism. The proposed bill was deferred pending further review by the County Council. The committee will request a draft from the EAR committee for a future meeting's review.

7. Committee reports
 - a. Tree concerns—Jeannie Pezzoli moved to ask the Planning Dept. for the plan at Azeka Shopping Center for replacing the parking lot trees that have been removed. The motion was seconded by William Jacintho and passed unanimously.
 - b. Exceptional trees—Kimberly Thayer reported that she had assessed the monkey pod and Indian Locust on the property of the Yokouchi estate. The monkey pod looks healthy but the Indian Locust has autograph trees growing in it. She will notify the owners. Jeannie and Ernie Rezens will review the Makawao tree on August 15, 2014.
 - c. Arbor Week—Members are asked to come to the next meeting with suggestions for the honorary chair, theme, project, and proclamation.
8. Chairman's report
 - a. The tree care workshop presented by ISA would be a good opportunity to educate county employees. William will investigate potential dates and venues with Elaine. Kim will contact department directors.
9. Arborist report—deferred due to absence of David Sakoda.

Those present: Kimberly Thayer, Bill Myrter, Harlan Hughes, Chris Reynolds, Jeannie Pezzoli, Richie Campas, members of the committee; Jeff Ueoka, Corporation Counsel; Ernie Rezens, Cheryl McGrath, members of the public.

