



Nevada Shade Tree Council Board Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2013
0900 – 1530 hrs

Meeting Location:
Rancho San Rafael Regional Park
1595 North Sierra Street
Reno, Nevada 89503

In Attendance:

Molly Sinnott, President
Lisa Ortega, Past President
Bill Bowers, Treasurer
Forest Schafer, Secretary
Bill Wolf
Dick Post
ML Robinson
Tina McKeand
Mike Verchik
Greg Deuley
Cleto Arceo

Bill Carlos
Joe Carr
John Crandell
Gerald Fassett

GUESTS AND EX-OFFICIO

David Howlett – NDF
Andi Porreca – NDF
Susan Stead – Honorary
Steve Churchillo – Guest
Tony Dietz – Guest

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Molly Sinnott called the meeting to order at 0900 hrs.

II. USFS REPORTING AND DISCUSSIONS

Margie Ewing, USFS Urban and Community Forestry Program Liaison, was not present.

III. NDF URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY STATE COORDINATOR REPORT

David Howlett distributed new brochures for the NDF UCF program. Data from the Elko Tree inventory project will be made available online.

UCF submitted a Western Competitive Grant Proposal for \$300,000, and includes funding for education and inventory work. NSTC members are interested in taking on a project for tree care education aimed at homeowners associations.

IV. NEVADA SHADE TREE COUNCIL ITEMS

IV.A. Approve September 13, 2012 Minutes

Dick Post moved to approve the minutes as amended. Lisa Ortega seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

IV.B. REPORTS

IV.B.1. Northern Southern and Western Areas

Over 75 people attended the Tree Risk Assessment and Plant Appraisal Basics class in Incline Village.

The State of Nevada has adopted the 2006 International Urban-Wildland Interface Code. The code contains requirements for tree pruning and crown spacing. Enforcement efforts are increasing in some areas.

The Southern Nevada Regional Transportation Commission is implementing a “Complete Streets” program that incorporates urban forestry best practices. Henderson is participating with data from its tree inventory.

NV Energy is maintaining an aggressive elm removal policy for trees interfering with power lines. A new contract has been awarded for NV Energy’s tree work, replacing Asplundh. NV Energy participated in creating an approved plant list with the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Commission (available at SNRPC.org).

The Truckee Meadows Tree Care Guide is available at communityforestry.org.

Elko has closed out its canopy assessment grant. The data is being utilized to implement a maintenance schedule.

NDF is assisting Ely and Eureka with tree inventories.

NSTC will host ISA exam prep courses in Henderson in March, and Reno in October.

IV.B.2. Treasurer

NSTC’s current subgrant through UCF expires at the end of March. About \$10,000 remain in this grant. A budget and proposal for a new subgrant must be submitted to UCF to maintain funding.

IV.B.3. By-laws

Deferred until the next meeting.

IV.B.4. Nominations

Tina McKeand moved to elect Joe Carr as Treasurer. Greg Deuley seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Dick moved to nominate Bill Carlos as President Elect. John Crandell seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

IV.C. OLD BUSINESS

IV.C.1 Nevada Shade Tree Week Events

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension planted palms in Las Vegas.

City of Reno and Washoe County planted trees through AT&T's phone book exchange program.

Gardnerville planted trees at a park through NSTC's Shade Tree Week grant.

The bird viewing preserve in Las Vegas removed tamarisk and planted screening trees through NSTC's Shade Tree Week grant.

IV.C.2. Tree City USA

Elko, Henderson and Reno have completed their applications. NDF is working with Austin, Eureka and Battle Mountain to pursue Tree City USA status.

IV.C.3. Newsletter

Tina McKeand will compile a newsletter when she has received enough articles from members to fill the document.

IV.C.5. Website

The new website will be live in 1-2 months. Members should send feedback on the beta site to Forest Schafer. Pictures and body text for content sections should also be provided if available. Members should also pursue incentive programs for membership, such as discounts on training and nurseries, recognition programs, etc.

IV.C.6. Facebook

Covered during IV.C.5.

IV.D NEW BUSINESS

IV.D.1. Treasurer Candidates

Covered during IV.B.4.

IV.D.2. Arborist Training CEU's and Fees

Changes to the ISA Exam Preparation Course fee structure were discussed. *Bill Carlos moved to increase the fee for certified arborists seeking continuing education units to \$75 per day, while retaining the current fee of \$95 for three days for non-certified arborists that do not require continuing education units. Cleto Arceo seconded. Motion approved with 11 in favor, 4 opposed, and 1 abstaining.*

IV.D.3. Education

Lisa Ortega moved to approve up to \$200 to purchase member for NSTC in the Nevada Landscape Association and the Southern Nevada Landscape Association. Greg Deuley seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

IV.D.4. Arbor Day 2013 and Tree Circus

Arbor Day 2013 is Friday, April 26. *Mike Verchik moved to allocate \$500 of NSTC funds per region to fund Arbor Day projects, with the ability to allocate unrequested funding to other regions. Gred Deuley seconded. Motion approved unanimously.*

The deadline for submitting Arbor Day grant applications is March 8.

Tree Circus is a traveling tree education program for school-aged children. David Howlett is pursuing location ideas for the Reno and Las Vegas areas.

IV.D.5. US 395 Minden Tree Project

A committee that manages the maintenance of trees along several miles of US 395 in Minden is looking to shift maintenance responsibilities to NSTC. The current committee is fully funded. Dick Post and Molly Sinnott will meet with the committee for more information.

IV.D.6. Conference Updates

Forest Schafer moved to authorize up to \$3500 of NSTC funds to host an "Up By Roots" workshop in the Las Vegas area. Greg Deuley seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Lisa Ortega will make all arrangements for the workshop.

IV.D.6. Other items brought to the table by members

The executive board will meet in March to prepare a budget and proposal for a new UCF subgrant.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No items were brought forward.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

A meeting date was not determined.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Molly Sinnott adjourned the meeting at 1520 hrs.

Submitted by Forest Schafer.