

URBAN FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Date:	06-16-2025
Time:	4:36 – 6:05 pm
Place:	Virtual Zoom Meeting
Attending:	UFS: Chair Christine Johnson, Thea Hayes, Jim Buck, Keith Warren, Steve Stevens Staff: Jim Wheeler PC Liaison: Greg Schroeder, John Hartsock Council Liaison: Guests: Janet Unruh
Absent	UFS:

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Meeting Minutes	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 19, 2025 – Add disclaimer for the Chair regarding the Tree Code discussion. Change phrasing under Work Plan discussion that Tree Code and Parks Master plan items are appropriate for UFS to address – Clarifying verbiage needed.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 19, 2025, approved 5-0, as amended
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Agenda Item #4 – Gradin Arboretum Update	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Signage An example of an information sign for Gradin was provided and discussed. Artistic, illustrative, mapped with categories (tree numbers or identification), information about park history and the changing of the urban forest. Generally, the sign shouldn't go in before the arboretum trees are fully planted. Examples of informational signs should be brought to the on-site meeting tomorrow. Planting Plan (6/17 on-site meeting) Jim Buck, Keith Warren, and Christine Johnson to meet with Parks staff on-site tomorrow. There are some problems with the survival of the trees that have been planted – Committee members seeking answers. Lack of irrigation may be an issue. Committee would like to know the watering plan and how trees were transplanted.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Agenda Item #5 – General Update (Chair)	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emerald Ash Bore (EAB) Workshop: No attendees outside of UFS members. Members discussed ideas on how to get more public involvement. Ideas included enlisting the Parks Department, holding workshops in the library, reaching out to local schools, and partnering with other organizations such as the Historic Society. Keep topics timely, practical, and relatable. Members suggested that it may be too early to grab the public's attention about the EAB in terms of the severity of the issue. Multnomah County has not been affected by the pest as much as other counties have. Joint Cemetery Walk on June 14th SW Neighborhood Association Information Fair and Ice Cream Social, Thursday, July 24, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, Butler Creek Park (SW 27th and SW Mawcrest). Thea suggested that the UFS could potentially host an information table for education or recruitment. Overall committee consensus was that no one was available/had capacity to help host this idea. The group feels that there needs to be some refinement about the UFS and what information to share.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Agenda Item #5 – Staff Update	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Planting Inspections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City is working out a system where the Development Engineering field inspectors will provide inspections for the planting of street trees and landscape trees required for residential lots. Lennar Homes is working on planting the required landscape trees for the homes along SW Linneman Drive. Need a list for appropriate landscape trees – location and type. Butler Road Signage – Significant Tree Sign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the SW Butler Road street name changes, the City is considering providing a sign at the Century Oak Homestead at the corner of Rodlun and 39th (used to be Butler). The proposed signage would state: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Butler Homestead Site City of Gresham Significant Tree Oregon White Oak (Quercus Garryana) Planted by Euphemia Butler circa 1880 Next Meeting – August 18, 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Council summer recess this year is 7/21-8/15. CCAC's are not supposed to be meeting during this recess period. Possible on-site work session tentatively scheduled for July 7th.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Next Meeting is July 7, 2025 (To be held as a work session)

*These meeting minutes were unanimously approved by the Urban Forestry Subcommittee on August 18, 2025.