

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

January 12, 2011

9:05–10:00 am

140 West Pine Street

Members Present: (chair), Pam Walzer, Bob Jaffe, Renee Mitchell, Jon Wilkins, Dave Strohmaier, Stacy Rye, Dick Haines,

Members Absent: Marilyn Marler, Ed Childers, Lyn Hellegaard

Others Present: Ben Carson, Shirley Kinsey

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Approve minutes.

Minutes of January 5, 2011 were approved as submitted.

II. FINAL CONSIDERATION AGENDA ITEMS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

V. [Discussion Date: 01/12/11] Approve and authorize agreements for annual spring [tree order](#). ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Ben Carson) (Referred to committee: 01/10/11) (Remove from agenda)

MOTION: The Committee recommends Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with Glacier Nursery, Kalispell, Montana in the amount of \$10,235.50 (plus freight) for the annual purchase of trees for spring planting.

Tree pricing and availability were evaluated from five wholesale nurseries. In an effort to procure all the species and quantities of trees desired, while at the same time minimizing shipping costs, two nurseries were selected as suppliers. The order with Glacier Nursery was over the \$10,000 which mandates council approval. The purchases are funded through the annual Urban Forestry tree planting budget in combination with the additional \$10,000 appropriate by City Council through the Park District. The additional order with Baxter Wholesale Nursery in the amount of \$7, 1888 (plus freight) reflects the remainder of the tree order. The Department usually spends less than \$9,000 on the annual order. This is an approximate 75% increase in the number of trees that will be planted. The total order will include 178 trees all between 1.5 to 2 inch calipers. Cost share, memorial trees and tree removal replacement locations are considered priority locations. After priority locations are filled, trees will be distributed over various geographic locations in parks and on boulevards throughout the city but excluding conservation lands.

The Urban Forester was asked if he had specific locations for each tree by Renee Mitchell. He responded by saying a running list is kept of all residents interested in cost share or memorial trees. The list is then used as a starting point for fulfilling the planting needs for the BID and reforestation of parks and boulevards, but not a specific location for every tree at this time.

The Council debated whether or not the money should be spent when the exact location for each tree is not known at this time. The directive to purchase more trees came from Council during the budget process in an effort to accomplish the goal to increase and diversify the tree population in Missoula. There was also debate as to whether or not another referral for a tree planting plan was needed.

The Question was called for and passed unanimously. The motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with Glacier Nursery passed with a four to three vote in favor of the motion. The item will be discussed during committee reports at the next council meeting.

VI. [Discussion Date: 01/12/11] [Resolution](#) revising City of Missoula Parks and Recreation Fee Schedules for Parks, and Recreation programs, facilities and concessionaires. ([Memo](#)) ([Cons](#)) (Returned from Council floor: 01/03/11) (HELD IN COMMITTEE)

The Committee debated whether or not to take up this referral as Lyn Hellegaard was not present. Ms. Hellegaard had returned this item back to the committee after the public hearing on January 3, 2011. It was discussed as to why this was returned but as Lyn Hellegaard was not present to answer, the issue was not clarified.

Staff will be presenting a detailed report on January 26 on aquatics facilities. It was hoped to have the recreation fee schedule approved in order to process field reservations, and enter tournaments agreements, and to set fees for publication in the spring brochure.

Staff was asked if holding the item would adversely affect fees as the next available Council approval may not take place until February. Shirley Kinsey indicated it would not be an ideal situation and may have an impact on the users.

The committee decided to hold the item in committee until there is clarification between the Parks Department and Ms. Hellegaard as to why the referral was returned to committee and what additional information was needed.

HELD/REFERRED OR ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS –

1. Information on Trail Projects ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler) (Referred to committee: 08/23/2010)
2. Reorganization of conservation lands advisory committees. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler) (Referred to committee: 11/08/10)
3. Consider a new ordinance that will create a process and criteria for the naming of public parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jackie Corday) (Referred to committee: 10/25/10)
4. Approve an agreement between the City and Garden City Harvest (GCH) to allow for community gardens on City owned properties that will be identified in the future. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jackie Corday) (Referred to committee: 10/25/10) (Item tabled in committee 12/08/2010)
5. Budget update on aquatics. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 11/08/10)
6. Appoint one member to the Conservation District for the term beginning January 1, 2011 and ending on December 31, 2013. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Kelly Elam) (Referred to committee: 12/13/10)

VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.