TONY BRAND	MARY INMAN	LACY JOHNSON	MARK KOFFER	BILL MANKER	BRIAN WINN
CHAIRPERSON		ALTERNATE			VICE-CHAIR

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

TOM COURTNEY	**CITY MANAGER**
GREGORY LANTING	**COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**
DENNIS J. BOWYER	**PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR**
KEVIN SKELTON	**PARKS COORDINATOR**

TWIN FALLS CITY TREE COMMISSION MEETING

February 24, 2009 * * * * * 12:00pm * * * * * City of Twin Falls Council Chambers

Members Present:	**Mark Koffer, Mary Inman, Tony Brand, Brian Winn and Bill Manker**
Members Absent:	**Lacy Johnson**
Non-Voting Member Absent:	**Dave Kiesig**
Council Present:	**Gregory Lanting**
Staff Present:	**Dennis Bowyer**
Staff Absent:	**Kevin Skelton**
Guest:	**Earleen Peterson, Student of Dave Kiesig's Community Education Course on Landscaping & Former Tree Commission Member**

MINUTES

Chairperson Tony Brand called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm.

Brian Winn made a correction to the January 27th, 2009 minutes on Item #3, second paragraph, third sentence to delete "or counties". Mary made a motion to approve the January 27th, 2009 minutes with the corrections. Mark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #1 Membership – Commission & Staff

This is Mark and Mary's last month on the Tree Commission. Dennis asked Mark and Mary if March 9th or 16th would work for them to be presented at the City Council meeting their plaques for their years of service on the Commission. Either date would work fine for them. Dennis will be in contact with them on the date.

So far, two applications have been received for the openings on the Commission. Dennis would like to see more applicants so if the Commission knows of anyone that would be interested, we will accept

late applications. At this point, we don't know when interviews will be held but Dennis is hoping to have them finished before March 16th.

Item #2 Public Workshop Program Report – Brian & Tony

Dave Kiesig has agreed to be the main presenter at the workshop. Tim Abbott of Trees and Stumps of Magic Valley will be at City Park to demonstrate the proper pruning techniques. Brian mentioned he is going to contact Craig Westling with Idaho Power to make sure he is able to attend and make a brief presentation. Dennis stated that advertising has been on the water bills and the Chamber has included the workshop on their "Friday Facts". Flyers have also been made for Commission members to take with them and hand out.

Dennis suggested having an agenda made up and hand it out to the participants of the workshop. Brian will get together with Christi to get that set up. Brian also suggested having participants sign in with their name, address and e-mail. This would benefit the participants if the Tree Enhancement Program gets approved in the Fall so we can mail out applications to them. Tony asked how many people would be a good starting number for the workshop. Brian thought having at least 15-20 people would be good. The Council Chambers holds approximately 130 people so there should be enough room. Dennis mentioned he will need to talk to the IS Department about a wireless microphone that Dave can wear for the presentation. If there is a large crowd, it would be nice to have the microphone so participants won't have a problem hearing the presentation.

Earleen suggested having sandwich boards set up with the workshop information on it along the street at the park to advertise. The Magic Valley Symphony has boards that they use for their events and she said they might allow the Commission to use them for the workshop. This would be an inexpensive way to advertise.

Item #3 Arbor Day – Commission & Staff

Brian and Bill met with the County Tree Committee to discuss Arbor Day and possibly combining our efforts for a celebration and have a parade. Brian reported that Sgt. Pullin with the City of Twin Falls Police Department attended the meeting and worked out the parade route with the Committee. He will need to go to City Council to ask for permission to hold the parade since this is not a recurring event. He feels that there shouldn't be any problem with getting it approved.

The parade would take place on Saturday, April 25th at noon and start near Krengels and end at the Magic Valley High School. The sub-committee has been starting to work on the advertising for the event and would like to purchase a banner that would go across Shoshone Street for advertising the parade the week prior. The County is working with Idaho Power for sponsorship towards purchasing the banner. They are also approaching businesses for donations to advertise on the banner. Brian asked if the City would be able to donate towards the banner. Dennis said that money is set aside for that kind of thing and doesn't think it would be a problem. This banner would most likely last 10-12 years and would be able to be re-used each year.

Tony asked if we would still be planting a tree for Arbor Day as part of the City celebration. Brian stated that it would be up to the Commission to have a separate celebration. We won't be able to plant a tree with the County due to the cost of the parade. Bill would like to have a separate celebration for the City. Dennis mentioned that there is a grant of $300 that we apply for each year so that could cover the cost of the trees to be planted. In the past, trees have also been donated.

Dennis went over the locations the trees have been planted in past years. He recommended that we plant the trees at the Softball Complex this year. In years past, 4-6 trees have been planted and he would like

to do that again this year. The parade should be over by 2pm so Dennis suggested starting the City tree planting ceremony at 2pm. Brian suggested having holes pre-dug due to the ground being so hard last year. The Commission will invite the Boys and Girls Club to attend the ceremony again this year.

Bill made a motion to hold the City Arbor Day tree planting ceremony at the LDS Softball Complex beginning at 2:00pm on Saturday, April 25th. Brian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #4 Old & New Business - Commission

Dennis thanked Tony and Brian for helping set up at the Home and Garden Show. Tony commented that he heard they had over-record attendance this year.

Dennis reported that he has been contacted by Idaho Power with their annual tree trimming. They are using a company called WFCI and if there are any trees in the City that needs pruning, they will let Dennis know.

Dennis brought up the meeting date and time and asked if the Commission was still looking at changing it to fit Dave Kiesig's schedule. One thing that the Commission will need to keep in mind is the Council Chamber availability and Dennis would recommend not having the meeting the second week of the month due to two other Commission meetings that he has that week. Discussion followed on changing the meeting date and time. Brian mentioned that Friday's are the day that works best for Dave Kiesig.

Brian made a motion to change the Tree Commission's meeting date and time to be held on the 4th Friday every month at 11:00am. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission decided that no lunch will be provided but there will be refreshments.

Bill asked if the insurance companies have been contacted yet about the Hazard Tree Program. He would be willing to start contacting the companies if he can get the list of the homeowners in the area from Philip Stewart who did the inventory of the hazardous trees.

Item #5 What Have You Seen? - Commission

Bill reported that Farmer's National Bank on Shoshone Street has topped all their trees for the fifth year in a row. This is on private property but the trees look terrible.

Mary reported a tree on Fairfield Street underneath the power lines has been completely topped. Dennis will drive by and take a look.

Tony thanked Mark and Mary for their service on the Tree Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13pm.

The next meeting of the Tree Commission will be held **Friday, March 27th, 2009** at **11:00 am** in the **City of Twin Falls Council Chambers, located at 305 3rd Ave E.**

Christi Green

Christi Green
Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation