## City of Lake Forest Park – Tree Board Meeting Normal Meeting Minutes: Febuary 1st, 2023; 7:00-9:00pm Hybrid Meeting Held in the Forest Room at City Hall and Virtually via Zoom Tree Board Members present: Marty Byrne, Chair Richard Olmstead, Mandee Parker, Julia Bent Staff and others present: Riley Bushnell, Assistant Planner; Councilmember Larry Goldman Members of the Public present: John Brew, Vicki Scuri, Randi Sibonga Tree Board Members absent: Doug Sprougel, Sandy Levar Call to order: 7:03 PM Short Reflections: None. Introductions: The Tree Board members and City staff introduced themselves. Approval of Meeting Agenda: Chair Olmstead discussed order of agenda, Ms. Parker motioned to approved agenda, Ms. Byrne seconded. Motion passed. **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Parker motioned to approved the agenda, Ms. Bent seconded. Public Comment: John Brew spoke out about the Sound Transit Bus Rapid Transit Corridor (BRT) development. He highlighted more than 700 trees were inventoried in their review of trees along the corridor. He stated many significant and landmark trees were to be removed. He was concerned the temporary easements used to expand the bus route are going to be a clear cut. He was wondering if there's plans to replace said trees. He questioned what is interpretation of trees in the right of way. Chair Olmstead and John Brew discussed the implications of removing trees in the easements. John Brew said it's not clear what the replacement plan is and wants the tree board to discuss this further. Vicki Scuri discussed the wall that would go into place per plans she presented in a picture provided from Sound Transit marketing materials. She said the original BRT design never used to imply tree removal and that it's a great oversight that tree removal was never flagged as a concern. She claims the tree removal is backwards thinking in terms of climate change and said it could lead to adverse living conditions. John Brew iterated he supports the BRT project, he just wants smart design and mitigation for trees. Vicki Scuri added only two minutes of time is saved for transit by the BRT. Randi Sibonga mentioned Sound Transit's tree removal plans at 60% design for the BRT. Randi claims it is a massive taking and how it could impact gateway to Lake Forest Park on 522. Randi wants a canopy study and asked for some clarity on the replacement of right of way trees. Communication:

- 1 Next Meeting
- 2 Chair Olmstead spoke to the next meeting taking place on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at city hall.
- 3
- 4 Announcements
- 5 None.
- 6

## 7 8 **Old Business:**

- 9 McAleer Creek Restoration - Julia
- 10 Julia spent this time to look back on her time on the tree board. She iterated that the east side of
- 11 Bothell Way across from the town center, by the architect's office, some cedar trees were planted 12
- there replacing a whole row of poplars because they were endangering electric lines. She mentioned 13 carrying water to cedar trees when they were young and since they've since grown twice as big. She
- 14 talked about this planting being of the tree board's influence.
- 15
- 16 She told of her project in McAleer Creek working with the Dept of Ecology removing invasive
- species and planting 35 cedars and bare roots and herbs. She mentioned the extension she was given 17
- 18 to use all the grant money. Since she was given the extension, they placed Spruce trees with chicken
- 19 wire to abate beavers. She says this project is nearly completed and she'll do a final report on it to
- 20 the tree board when its officially done. She hopes the tree board will keep in mind that these
- 21 restoration efforts aren't effective without maintenance. Julia requested a professional crew to go in
- 22 and hand weed the creek to rid it of invasive species to maintain its current state. She mentioned this
- 23 is the last meeting for her and she is retiring.
- 24 25 2023 Work Plan
- 26 Ms. Byrne motioned to adopt the work plan, Ms. Parker seconded.
- 27
- 28 Public Outreach Plan
- 29 Chari Olmstead introduced the customer information bulletin on the Champion Tree Care website.
- 30 He said it was a better, more concise summary for restrictions on our tree permits.
- 31
- 32 Councilmember Goldman brought up the council's discussion on ST3. He mentioned that it's time
- 33 sensitive to get recommendations for certain portions of the ST3 project. Goldman and Chair
- 34 Olmstead discussed options for designs of walls. 35
- 36 **New Business:**

## 37 2022 Annual Report

- 38 Chair Olmstead outlined the annual report. He discussed the durations of terms of members. He
- 39 outlined the adoption of ordinances of council and tree inventory data gathering that's underway.
- 40 He mentioned being active in the e-news. All of this was gathered in the report.
- 41
- 42 Ms. Parker motioned to adopt the annual report. Ms. Byrne seconded.
- 43

44 On the topic of duration of terms, Chair Olmstead brought up the need for a vice chair and how the 45 board should potentially rotate into chair and vice chair. He brought up the need for new members

- 46 as well.
- 47

## 48 **Reports and Announcements:**

1	Frontlines
2	The City Arborist provided a report of permits submitted within the last month. She let the board
3	know that eight new tree permits were filed in the month of January. She spoke to her permit
4	submittals that were provided in a report to the board.
5	
6	Councilmember Goldman's Report
7	Councilmember Goldman brought up how nearly every board is short of members. He brought up
8	how there's a roundabout to go in on Ballinger Way & 40th and that some trees will be impacted on
9	the construction. He's saying there's about 30-60% design. According to his report, 3-4 dozen trees
10	are estimated to be removed in the project.
11	
12	He also brought up Bill 1078 which states cities cannot have a tree ordinance that require
13	replacement and that cities must have tree bank plan. This would neuter requirement to replace trees
14	on the parcel if removed. He then brought up recommendations that might be added to the bill.
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16	Preliminary discussion about 2022 Tree Inventory Data
17	None.
18	
19	Agenda for Next Meeting:
20	Potential items for the agenda were discussed for next meeting.
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22	
23	Adjournment: Ms. Parker moved to adjourn. Ms. Byrne seconded; and the meeting adjourned at
24	8:11 PM.
25	
26	
27	APPROVED:

Richard Onuteal

Richard Olmstead, Chair