Jacksonville Tree Commission

Urban Forest Master Plan Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 10th, 2023, 9:30AM

For Approval September 20th, 2023

609 Saint Johns Bluff, Conference Room 1

Attendees:

Susan Fraser, Tree Commissioner

Jonathan Colburn, Urban Forestry Manager

Justin Gearhart, City Arborist

Lisa Grubba- Greenscapes

Scott Sauder- JEA

1. **Call to Order**- Ms. Fraser

2. **Roll Call**- Ms. Fraser

3. **Discussion of concluding thoughts of committee**-
   a. Fuse Fellow starting by the end of year will help lead the process and based on their data collection, recommendations of what data we need will be given.
   b. We will still need funding to complete the plan as it takes a team, not one person.
   c. There are a lot of unknowns as the moving pieces, such as the Fuse Fellow, are still being decided.
   d. This should be the last of the subcommittee for now, but we should be actively involved when the urban forest management planning begins.

4. **Recommendations by the committee-**
   a. Recommend using the "Urban Forest Management: A Primer to Strategic Planning for Municipal Governments" as the scope of work for an Urban Forestry Management Plan unless professional input shows otherwise.
   b. Recommend a formal letter of support from Tree Commission for the $300,000 dollar budget request for an Urban Forest Management Plan.
   c. Recommend that Tree Commission has a formal interaction with the Resiliency Office regarding the current efforts towards an Urban Forest Management Plan.

d. Jonathan Colburn would report on the current progress of Urban Forest Management Plan to the Tree Commission.

e. Recommend that the Tree Commission pens a formal letter of support for the November Urban Forestry Grant if/when Jonathan Colburn applies for it.

f. Recommend that the annual reporting of Tree Commission efforts and the annual presentation to City Council resume.

g. Recommend that Jonathan Colburn reaches out to the Grant Department for recommendations for upcoming grants to investigate.

5. At 11:05 Ms. Fraser called an end of the meeting.