

Urban Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes 1/3/2012

In Attendance: Barbara O'Brien, Mary Terry Schiltz, Mary Wolfe, Richard Roati, Rita Toland

A. Old Items

1. Treat Walkway Landscaping

Because the Treat Walkway also serves as a utility easement for TEP, we will be working with TEP and the City of Tucson to gain their approval before planting. Our plan is to landscape the walkway between Devon and Exeter Streets first. Progress is being made with TEP, since, with the help of Irene Ogata, we've been able to identify two employees who will work with us: Harold Hummer, TEP's Utility Arborist, and Jim Bennett, Transmission Maintenance Planner. We will also be working with Gary Wittwer, Landscape Architect with the City of Tucson's Department of Transportation, to obtain a permit before construction is started. Oscar Blazquez has agreed to draw up plans we can present to TEP and the city. We will be meeting with TEP on Friday, January 6 to discuss plans to landscape the walkway.

New Items

1. **Urban Forestry Committee Pruning Workshop planned for February 18**

Urban Forestry members have expressed an interest in holding a workshop where we can teach each other pruning techniques. The idea is that we can take the skills that we learn to beautify the trees in our backyard and in the neighborhood. We will be meeting next at the Malvern Plaza on Saturday, February 18 at 10 am. We will host a pruning workshop to discuss how to prune young native trees, with the goal of pruning the trees in the Malvern Plaza. Information on deciduous tree pruning can be found here:

<http://ag.arizona.edu/pubs/garden/az1139.pdf>

When this work is complete, we will walk along the arroyo to view the oleanders and discuss their pruning needs. We will then walk over to the corner of Exeter and the Treat Walkway to discuss plans to landscape the section of the Treat Walkway between Exeter and Devon. Bring your hand pruners and loppers, water and a day pack with you for this hands-on workshop!

2. **Arroyo Chico Clean Up Day planned for March 10**

The oleanders have resumed growing in a big way, and in combination with our plentiful rainfall this past fall and so far this winter, the result is they now need some pruning to shape them, and to make sure the pathway between the oleanders and the street remains usable. We'll be holding our annual Arroyo Chico clean up day on March 10 this year. We'll meet at Malvern Plaza at 9 am. Irene Ogata has agreed to help us obtain two free dumpsters from the city in which to place our prunings. Bring your hand pruners and loppers, water and a day pack with you!