

**Arborist Committee
Minutes
May 14, 2008**

Those present: Bob Hobdy, William Jacintho, Jordan Hart (Chair), Harlan Hughes, Terry Nutt, Sue Lipp, and Monroe Bryce, members of the committee; Sue Kiang, staff support to the committee; Jeff Ueoka, Corporation Counsel; Glenn Shishido, state forester, ex-officio member of the committee; Ernest Rezens, volunteer to the committee; Richard Kempf and Jeannie Pezzoli, excused.

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 pm when it was determined that a quorum was present. The minutes of the April 9 meeting were approved unanimously in a motion made by William Jacintho and seconded by Sue Lipp.

Harlan created a draft of a letter to be sent to the homeless shelter about the severe pruning that was done at their facility. Ernie volunteered to rework the draft and bring it back for members' approval. There are four photographs to accompany the letter. One suggestion was to identify the benefits of shade trees.

Jeff Ueoka clarified the use of emails between members. People can communicate one to one, but one member should not approach each member individually on a given topic as that would become a chain communication and it would be unacceptable under the provisions of the sunshine law.

Ernie presented the corrected versions of Chapter 2, 3, & 4 with the new information in bold. It was suggested to drop the reference to the Maui County arborist on page 19 when it speaks of private rock walls. The purpose of 2.1.12 is to encourage co-mingling of genera rather than a single dominant tree for a street-scape. A landscape architect had give Ernie feedback on the aesthetics of mixing several tree types. Rather than 25%, it was changed to not more than 60% with a statement that no other genera would be more than 20%. The information about irrigation was problematic to Ernie. He felt that there is a limited area where people live on Maui that gets 50" or more rainfall, therefore precluding the need for irrigation. He also has not seen a reference to E.T. sensors in the literature. This will continue to be reviewed. There were only 7 palms that had a canopy less that 10 feet which makes them usable in medians. One member voiced his frustration that the planting plan does not mention the proper care of the canopy to optimize shade. This may require a code change rather than just more information in the plan. Chapter 3 included three tables of various sized trees. Again the irrigation language will be modified for uniformity throughout the document. It was suggested that we may not want to reference the state law on exceptional trees or details on the tax benefits as those may change before the planting plan would be updated again.

Ernie reported that he had not been able to make a case for dedicating more space for street tree planting with the Subdivision Engineering Design Committee. Easements seem to be more acceptable. However, Jeff Hunt, the director of Planning, is looking at the information.

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The discussion on subcommittees entailed determining acceptable times for them to meet. It is most convenient for members to arrive early for a meeting rather than at another time.

Jordan's chairman's report included a draft of a letter to the Zoning Enforcement. Its purpose is to identify parking lots that have inadequate tree counts, so when the property comes in for additional permits, this can be called to their attention for remedy before additional permits are issued. There were favorable comments. Terry moved and Monroe seconded a motion to forward the letter to the planning director. It passed unanimously. He is also interested in doing a planting project at the parking lot behind the county building.

Members were reminded that the June meeting falls on a holiday, so there will be no meeting unless there is a landscape plan to review. In that case, it would be scheduled the week following the normal schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Sue Kiang 5/16/08