

USFAC - Landscape & Tree Advisory Subcommittee

Meeting: 3/10/21 10:00-11:00AM (Zoom Meeting)

Attendance: Ara Pachmayer, Alexandru Tomescu, Franziska Daumberger, Gordon Ulmer, Jason Sowerwine, Kassidy Banducci, Mike Fisher

Not Present:

Guests: Tom Williams

Agenda

1. Review minutes from last meeting - 1/29/2020
2. Website, Shared Google Drive, Membership, and Charge Review
 - a. <https://facilitymgmt.humboldt.edu/landscape-and-tree-advisory-committee>
 - b. **Useful References (on our google drive)**
 - i. Campus Standard Plant List - Updates planned with recommendations in-progress for standard plant list
 - ii. JP Smith Campus Flora reference
 - iii. Tree Maintenance Priorities List
3. Current/Recent work on campus
 - a. Library Oak removal (from 2/25/21)
 - i. Tree was deemed “unsalvageable” by a contracted arborist. There was some staining on the hardscape that we will clean up. Grounds crew plans to replant with an native tree. Proposed Oregon White Oak or some overstory deciduous tree. Recent turf conversion project was built on some shade there.
 - ii. Looking for input from this team - native selection, perhaps a stand-alone specimen. Oak is agreed.
 - b. HGH e-vehicle charging station
 - i. One ginkgo was removed, but the other is still there.
 - ii. Kassidy shared a picture of the project.
 - iii. Proposal to remove turf and replace with native drought-resistant small plants/shrubs and a seating area where the grass was.
 - c. Update from turf conversion projects
 - i. The Library Oak conversion completed by Steve Lee and converted to drip irrigation and all plants are varieties of native plants that have better ornamental characteristics. It's sparse now but should fill in. Question about age - did not collect age information, but guessing less than 100 years old. Based on lib circle construction, probably around 1950's.

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1. Noted - when trees are removed, it would be useful to get samples for teaching purposes. If we know a tree is going down, contact Mihai.
- ii. Between HGH and CDL is nearly complete (Chris Johnson) waiting for last decision about pathways. There are already 2 flagstone paths and have plants attractive to pollinators. Got rid of popup irrigation and converted to drip. Do we want a 3rd path or more pollinator plants? Recommended planting instead of 3rd path.
- iii. Near VMH - waiting for season/weather to finish (Larry Nicols area). Mostly drought-tolerant plants that don't need much water. Pop-ups will be left for grow-in and then converted to drip or no irrigation. This has been stripped of sod and weed control only.
- d. Cypress Residence Hall Alder removals
 - i. Area between path from FH toward the forest and Cypress Hall East - steep slope. There are a lot of ferns and saplings. There were 8 or 9 alder trees, relatively good size but leaning toward the building and close. One was dead and shedding branches. The rest were fairly accessible with lift. There are still a number of alders left on that hillside, but they are spaced out and the other plants are visible.

4. Planned work on campus

- a. Campus summer 2021 Tree maintenance proposal (items of note are included here, although the full proposal was considered)
 - i. #66 might be an in-house takedown. We could chip to create mulch for the area if we need it. This would be good. Plan to do in-house this would leave a stump. May be able to do some stump grinding or dig out with back-hoe.
 - ii. #73 could be skipped. We did some mitigation work on roots last summer and the tree seems to be ok.
 - iii. #97 is a new addition - recommended weight reduction and support cable install. It's a tall/big tree and is useful for instructional purposes.
- b. College Creek Tree revision proposals (housing and main campus sides)
 - i. Planned for small trees now larger trees later. See PDF of tree removal proposal in our folder structure for 3/10/21
 - ii. No obvious concerns. Continue as planned
- c. PG&E tree removals planned (Granite Avenue)
 - i. Powerlines supply arcata water tanks.
 - ii. No discussion needed. Continue as planned.
- d. Ethnobotanical mapping project (not covered 3/10/21 - ran out of time)
- e. LK Wood median restoration (not covered 3/10/21 - ran out of time)
- f. Trinity Children's Center Project (not covered 3/10/21 - ran out of time)
- g. Jenkins Hall Renovation (not covered 3/10/21 - ran out of time)

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- h. Rhododendron reductions along the N side of SH. (not covered 3/10/21 - ran out of time)

5. Next Meeting Plan

- a. April meeting - Liz to send invites

6. Future topics

- a. Campus Events Field restoration/use
- b. Full review of the updated campus standard plant list