

**CITY OF REDLANDS
CITRUS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of July 12, 2022
MINUTES**

1. Call to order at 4:00 pm - Attendance

Present: Michael Day, Chair
Roger Hardy
Tom Lanza
Rolland Moore
Heather Ross
Mark Shaw
Jack Steward

City Council: Mick Gallagher, Jenna Guzman Lowery

FCS Staff: Zach LaBonte, Tricia Swope

Farming/Packing companies: Al Ruiz, Roy Bettencourt

Guests: Dennis Bell, Iris Chu, Richard O'Donnell (online)

2. Public Comments: Iris Chu submitted public comment. She has been attending these meeting for 1 year in having City support of private growers.

3. Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Hardy motioned to accept June 14, 2022 minutes. Commissioner Shaw motioned to second.

4. Status Reports

- A. *Packinghouse report:* Villa Park starting picking Granite and finished last week. 1/2 through Judson (breaking records in quantity if not sizing - 40% utilization). Color sorting. Granite is about the same but better size. Working on I-10 this week. Sprayed last Saturday.
- B. *Farming report by John Gless:* Unable to attend.
- C. *Facilities & Community Services report:* Lots of irrigation going on. Bid out for trees to replace Lugonia grove was issued and received no bids. 2nd bid would be issued in August and include planting and irrigation (based on tree delivery). Demo trees would be included in 3rd bid. Area wide ACP Treatment to happen in August. Agreement with Jacinto for spraying, etc will go to Council in September.
- D. *Individual Commissioner Reports:* Commissioner Lanza walked Riverview Grove following last meeting - trees are in wilt; soil probed around trees and are soil is consistent to talcum powder. City staff confirmed trees are watered every week starting 1 month ago. Prospect Park lots of stumps are flushing out instead of stumps rotting out. Mature volunteer trees (i.e., ash, eucalyptus, palms, oaks are growing between the groves).

6. Old Business

- A. Review of Citrus Division Fund balance. End of May Claim on cash -\$3,446.00; June Claim on Cash is -\$45,000. Revenue comes few months later so expecting a change in August.
- B. Report from subcommittee for items related to private commercial groves. One of the primary challenges with groves is getting picked and packed. Large packing houses are not/cannot going to pick small growers. Commissioner Ross and Commissioner Moore will work on high level presentation/proposal to Commission to present to Council for ways to support small growers with little to no cost to City.
 - a. City Citrus Policy (adopted May 20, 2008)

Primary objective – **to maintain the historic presence of representative citrus lands throughout the entire city and, in particular, at location where they will be seen and appreciated regularly by our citizens** and to manage City-owned groves in an economically sustainable manner.

- i. City-owned groves should be managed with the goal, but not the requirement to, being supported by revenue received from the sale of citrus products from the groves.
- ii. Understanding the dynamics of the original purpose of measure “O” and the citrus market, as a whole, recommendations should be made in consideration based on the following:
 1. profitability,
 2. long-term viability
 3. aesthetics,
 4. and any other factors important to the citizens of Redlands.

C. Discussion and Possible Action related to request from Iris Chu regarding grove at 1855 River Bend Drive, Redlands

- a. Commissioner Shaw motioned to table this until next meeting and combine with Sub Committee Proposal

7. New Business

None

8. Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting

A. Farm Bureau Executive Director (Maggie O’Neill) to make presentation at a future meeting meeting. San Bernardino ACP task force new AG Commissioner (Angela) to give quick update. (grower list for citrus)

B. Subcommittee proposal

C. Discussion and Possible Action related to request from Iris Chu regarding grove at 1855 River Bend Drive, Redlands

9. 5: 13 pm – Adjournment to September 13, 2022 meeting.