

Citrus Preservation Commission – Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Redlands Citrus Preservation Commission held on Tuesday, October 10, 2017, at 4:00 pm in the Municipal Utilities and Engineering Department Conference Room, 35 Cajon Street, Suite 15-A, Redlands, are as follows:

Members: Bill Oesterlein Peter Buoye Libbern Cook
 Rolland Moore Jack Steward Michael Day

City Staff: Andy Ortiz Jon Harrison Rick Cross

Farming/Packing Companies: Chuck Hills Roy bettencourt

Guests: Dennis Bell Linda Richards

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by Chairman Buoye.
2. Public Comments:
 - A. Linda Richards, a local resident and science writer, made a few comments on the need to use more beneficial insects for ACP. The three points she wanted to emphasize were as follows:
 1. The use of Hover flies should be encouraged in organic groves.
 2. More native plants should be used in residential plantings.
 3. The use of pesticides in commercial groves should be reduced.
3. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. The minutes of September 12, 2017, meeting was approved as written. M/S/P.
4. New Business:
 - A. Packing House Report – Roy (CCC):
 1. Roy distributed a handout that summarized the pack out, net return per field box, the net return, and the utilization rate for the Valencia, Navel, and GF crops for the last three years.
 2. Hurricane Irma destroyed 75-80 % of the Orange crop in Florida, which should help the local Valencia market.
 - B. Farming Report- Chuck provided the following updates:

1. Most of the current work is focused on weeds and watering.
2. The Gibb spraying will start this week.
3. The GAP certification process is currently underway. The City PD and Caltrans just finished cleaning the I-10 grove earlier in the day. The Prospect Park and Palmetto groves will not be GAP certified.
4. The bids for the filters next to the planned development site will be addressed next spring.

C. Individual Commissioner Reports:

1. The fruit is coloring up nicely, with good size.

D. 10 Year Citrus Plan:

1. The spreadsheets distributed at the last meeting will be finalized with minimal changes and will be discussed further at the next meeting.

5. Old Business:

A. CPC Planting Guidelines:

1. Discussion on the guidelines was postponed until next month so that relevant City staff could be in attendance.

B. Fencing Update:

1. The bids for the Riverview and West Redlands Gateway groves were received earlier in the day. The bids for Riverview ranged from a low of 19K to a high of 80K. Work should begin soon. The bids for the West Redlands Gateway ranged from a low of 30K to a high of 75K. However, the site is still undergoing design review with Caltrans.

6. New Business:

A. Citrus Pest Control District Petition:

1. The City Council agreed to vote in favor of forming a local PCD.

B. Update on Citrus revenue YTD:

1. Roy will send a block by block summary to the City next week.

C. Planting Recommendation for New Development near the Judson Grove:

1. The plans call for planting Cara Cara Navels. Approximately 655 trees will be planted on 4.8 acres and a few minor adjacent areas.

7. Future agenda items for consideration:

A. Update on the citrus pool revenue for year to date.

B. Planting Guidelines review with City Department staff.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

9. The Next Meeting date will be November 14, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Oesterlein
Commission Secretary