

(DRAFT)
URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE MINUTES
MAY 16TH, 2025 8:05AM
City Hall – City Hall Conference Room 6

MEMBERS' PRESENT:

John Schwandt
Bob Hallock
Bruce Martinek
Gina Davis
Steve Bloedel
JD Reeves
Erika Eidson
Gabriel Hynes (Student Representative)

STAFF PRESENT:

Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester

GUESTS PRESENT:

Lee Wayman-CDA Resident

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 8:10 AM by John Schwandt

1) MINUTES

Motion to approve March 21st, 2025, minutes with some minor corrections by J.D. Reeves seconded by Bob Hallock approved by all.

2) PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3) COMMITTEE MEETING DATE DISCUSSION - Continued:

Gina Davis and Steve Bloedel suggested that Mondays may be better for them if the dates are changed. Nick said that he would check the details with the Legal department on what process needs to happen to make a change in meeting dates.

4) FORESTERS REPORT:

See the attached report.

5) URBAN FORESTRY PROJECT IDEAS:

Nick provided an update on the American Chestnut tree fencing; the single chain fence is installed, and the next steps are to illuminate the turf, aerify the soil, and bring in a mulch layer. Gina Davis mentioned she thought that it looked great. Gina Davis asked about staffing and wondered if the city is short-staffed and if the city is hiring. Stated that their division lost one full-time position that has not been filled, and the department is currently hiring seasonals and has many openings, but is not having much luck filling those seasonal openings. Nick also mentioned a new product that he found at the Idaho Parks and Recreation Association conference called Porous Pave that he is exploring as a “soft” or “flexible” sidewalk to use in some areas where sidewalks have been damaged by roots as an option for homeowners and the city. Nick is currently looking at some park properties for a pilot project with this product.

6) ARBOR DAY

The Chairman asked for any follow-up on Arbor Day. Nick Goodwin said the event went great and may look to do a similar event next year on the other side of Persons Field. Gina Davis said she took part in the Hayden Arbor Day celebration, and it was also a great opportunity to work with kids. Nick said that he will look to collaborate with surrounding cities to assist them with their events and not look to compete with the surrounding communities' events.

8.) INSPECTION REQUESTS:

- 1900 Sherman Ave: Two (2) Norwegian sunset maple clearance issues: tree removal and replacement approved due to the amount of pruning required for clearance issues.
- 1598 Pembroke Dr: two (2) choke cherry trees, removal request: approved for removal due to condition of the trees.
- 1130 N 6th ST: removal request one (1) Cottonwood tree: removal approved due to species and condition.
- 1107 Indiana Ave: removal request one (1) Ash tree: approved due to species.

9.) ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting ended at 9:40 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester