

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HAILEY TREE COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 4:00 pm

Call to Order: Vice chair David Antilla called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm

Attendance: City Staff; Emily Williams (Sustainability and Grants Coordinator)

Lisa Horowitz (Community Development Director)

Committee Members: Jim Rineholt, Mike McKenna, Kelsey Paxson, Katie Van Hees

Guest: Nathan Schutte and Rebecca Bundy representing Saddle Lofts project

Moghan Lyon representing Spruce Street Duplexes.

Approval of Feb minutes: Motion by Katie to approve, seconded by David. All approved.

New Business:

Spruce Street Duplex review: Moghan Lyon called in to the meeting and presented the landscape plan for the Spruce Street Duplex project. Thornless honey locust will be planted along River Street and Swedish aspen along Spruce Street. Honey locust is on the recommended street list but aspen is not due to it being susceptible to many insect and disease issues. It was suggested that another review of the street list may be beneficial to look for alternative species. The columnar oak that is listed on the west side of the building may be a good alternative.

Moghan mentioned that it can be difficult to meet design review requirements for planting 4" caliper trees as local nurseries do not always have this size in stock. He discussed that planting smaller caliper trees would have better survival rates in the long-term. The committee agreed to continue this discussion.

A motion was made by David to approve the Spruce Street Duplex landscape plan and seconded by Kelsey. All approved.

Saddle Lofts Proposal Nathan Schutte and Rebecca Bundy presented the landscape proposal. Washington hawthorn trees will be planted along Empty Saddle Street and Autumn Blaze maple will be planted along River Street. During project planning both of these trees were still on the recommended street tree list. Nathan stated that autumn blaze maple will offer nice fall red colors and shading along River Street. A motion to approve the Saddle Lofts landscape proposal was made by Jim and seconded by Kelsey. All approved.

April Our Town Newsletter: Katie: short blurb and Emily: article on the Arboretum.

Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration: Scheduled for March 30th, 4pm at the Wood River Land Trust Colorado at Red Feather Way off Broadford Lane. Kelsey will lead, Linda & Jim assist.

Old Business:

Fruit tree pruning presentation: Linda's presentation has been rescheduled for March 23rd, 5:30 pm and will be held in-person at the Hailey Public Library.

Earth Day Plans: HTC will have a table set up at City Hall and members David, Kelsey, Jim and Katie agreed to take turns attending to the table to provide information. David will purchase a tree and offer it up for a raffle. David and others will work on a brochure to review the current street tree list and the Wood River drought tolerant tree list with the goal of paring it down for recommended tree species. Katie will look for other handouts via the Arbor Day Foundation. This discussion will be continued at the April meeting and plans will be coordinated with the local Earth Day committee.

Board/Staff Reports:

Lisa discussed the need to review title 18 and design review clarification as it pertains to minimum trees size and spacing requirements for street trees. Current design review requirements for 10 or more planted trees states that 10% be at least 4" caliper trees, 20% are 3" caliper trees, and 20% are 2-1/2" caliper trees. Landscapers are finding it difficult to find 4" caliper size trees and can only purchase what is available. It was discussed that it's better to plant a smaller sized tree of the desired specie than to plant a tree species that is not suitable for the site. Since smaller trees are susceptible to damage it was suggested that stakes can be placed for protection until the trees are established. Lisa and Emily will go through both title 18 and design review requirements so the committee can assist with recommendations and clarification.

Lisa stated that the city is always looking for content for the city's Facebook page. It was suggested that profiling heritage trees would be an interesting topic.

Discussion of Topics for Next Agenda:

1. Continue title 18 and design review discussion
2. Finalize Earth Day Plans
3. Consider meeting with the Urban Renewal Board to discuss possible grant funding opportunities to support the installation of Silva cells. These structures can enhance survivability of street trees but are very costly for developers.
4. Lisa also suggested to look at long-term permanent infrastructure funding opportunities for the River Street project so the city can manage irrigating street trees.

Adjourn: Vice Chair Antilla adjourned meeting at 5:07 pm. Minutes taken by Jim Rineholt