MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE HAILEY TREE COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 6:00PM

Call to Order: Chair Linda Ries called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

Attendance: City Staff: Emily Williams (Sustainability and Grants Coordinator)
Committee Members: Jim Rineholt, Kelsey Paxson, Katie Van Hees, Linda Ries, Kelly Siemon
Guest: Dean Hernandez representing Sun Valley Auto project

Approval of March minutes: Motion by Linda to approve, seconded by Jim. All approved.

New Business:

Sun Valley Auto Review: Dean Hernandez presented the landscape proposal. The proposed street tree plan shows four Ginkgo Biloba ‘Golden Colonnade’ along Aviation Drive. Linda noted the Tree Committee planted a Ginkgo at Hop Porter Park last year for Arbor Day and that it is doing well. Dean mentioned lack of supply for 4” caliper trees, Linda, Jim and Kelsey agreed that due to limited supply this size requirement is difficult to achieve. Kelsey mentioned that preference is for species over caliper size of tree.

Jim made a motion to approve Sun Valley Auto landscape plan, seconded by Kelsey. All approved.

April Our Town Newsletter: Linda: short blurb and article on choosing tree planting location and species.

City Tree Maintenance: Committee reviewed Alpine Tree Service’s bid for servicing City trees. Linda noted that she would provide more in-depth feedback to the City at a later date. Committee agreed that in the future, best practice would be to bid out large contracts to all local providers, and the need for contracts to be specific in what the City needs.

Public Education: Kelly suggested Linda and Kelsey work together to develop an informational article with the Mountain Express to teach the greater public the importance of trees and how best to care for them. Specifically, it was recommended the article discuss beetle management, watering best practices and caring for trees in drought conditions.

Old Business:

Earth Day Plans: HTC will have a table set up at the Town Center West building on Saturday, 4/23. Materials for the table include donation jar for raffling nursery gift certificate, tree pamphlets, recommended tree list, volunteer signups for Arboretum Clean Up on May 25th. Kelsey suggested offering an “Ask an arborist” session wherein attendees could ask any questions of the Committee
members. Katie is coordinating this effort with the Climate Action Coalition and will organize the table, set up, and volunteers.

**Arbor Fest Plans:** Arbor Fest will take place on June 11 at the first Hailey Farmers Market of the year, at Roberta McKercher Park. Sixty seedlings have been ordered from University of Idaho, Linda will store them at her house until Arbor Fest. Committee will add tags to seedlings with species and care information at Arbor Fest. Kelsey recommended adding links for tree care on tag. Katie noted need for sign at Arbor Fest and offered to source gift cards for a raffle.

**Tree Caliper Requirement:** Committee determined that Title 18 and Design Review need to be updated to reduce caliper size requirement. Kelsey recommended that Committee could suggest alternative if 4” caliper tree could not be sourced. Kelsey and Linda agreed that there should be consistency between Title 18 and Design Review. Committee agreed that planting protocol is more important than caliper requirement. Linda suggested recommending simplifying language to include 2.5”- 4” caliper trees.

**Heritage Trees:** Mike McKenna is working with Rebecca Cox from the Blaine County Museum to add Heritage Trees to Walking Tour.

**Board/Staff Reports:**

**Discussion of Topics for Next Agenda:**

1. Continue tree caliper discussion
2. Finalize Arbor Fest plans

**Adjourn:** Chair Linda Ries adjourned meeting at 7:30 pm.