

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE HAILEY TREE COMMITTEE**

Thursday May 12, 2022 at 6:00PM

Call to Order: Chair Linda Ries called the meeting to order at 6:05

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

Committee Members: Melanie Paisley, Linda Ries, Kelly Siemon, David Antilla, Mike McKenna

Guest: None

Approval of April minutes: Motion by David to approve, seconded by Mike. All approved.

New Business

Update to Street Tree Design Standards, City Code 17.06.080

Linda presented suggested changes to Design Standard caliper size to committee. She mentioned that smaller caliper size typically means faster growing trees. The Committee also recommended removing the exclusion for street trees when considering species variety. David moved to approve suggested changes, Mike seconded. Passed unanimously.

June "Our Town" Newsletter

Linda will write an article on correct tree planting process, and include a thank you note to Katie Van Hees for her time on the Tree Committee and a reminder that ArborFest is on June 11th. In the future, the Committee would like to feature the Hailey Walking Tour brochure.

Recommendation for tree replacement on NW corner of Main and Croy

Linda and Jim identified above mentioned Ash tree as a hazard. Linda suggested replacing with a Swamp White Oak, committee recommended a Ginkgo as a backup option. Motion to approve by David, Seconded by Mike, all approved.

Old Business

ArborFest Plans: June 11th, 9:00-1:00, McKercher Park

Linda will bring banners for Hailey Tree Committee and Tree City Flag. Mike will bring pop-up tent. Linda is inviting Gerry and Ann Bates to attend, and to potentially wear a Lorax costume. Kelly will contact Sheila Plowman for a booth space at the Farmers Market. Linda will invite Mayor Burke to ArborFest. Committee can use two of City's collapsible tables. Emily will post information on Social Media. Mike will develop flyers, and offered to be the back-up Lorax.

Main Street Tree Update

Linda noted damage to trees from Christmas Lights wrapping and recommended leaving on for only two years at a time. Mike questioned whether lights could be readjusted on the trees, suggested that it could be an ongoing project to update lighting and make strands looser. Linda suggested using volunteers to take them off, Kelly agreed that organizing volunteers to move to a safer system for the trees.

HTC advocated for annual pruning of Main St. trees, asked that contracted arborist make those recommendations.

Heritage Tree Update

Mike reported that he is in the process of finding a graphic designer that can create a first version of the brochure that can be iterated on. Goal is for brochure to be completed by 4th of July. Linda offered to create mock ups of non-damaging signs for heritage trees to share with Committee.

Board/Staff Reports

ERIG (Idaho Native Plant Society) grant received for Arboretum

Received \$996 for Arboretum signs, have two-year time frame to get it done

Staff Report: Introduction to Hailey Tree Categories

Emily introduced concept of three draft categories for City Trees for Committee to consider and help flesh out: Category 1: City Mandated Plantings (required street scape improvements, subdivision ROW trees, new park trees, etc.) Category 2: Citizen Plantings (yard plantings encroaching into right of ways, etc.) Category 3: Natural Volunteer Plantings (cottonwoods in wet areas, etc). Linda noted need for prioritizing species within categories, need to add categories and develop specific language. Committee noted need to define ownership in encroachment areas.

Contracted Tree Service

HTC expressed desire to review larger contracts terms of service ahead of the City agreeing to them. HTC will create standards/guidelines for pest control practices and pruning. David and Mike suggested that an arborist should check work being done on ROW.

Discussion of Topics for Next Agenda – Next regular meeting is June 9th, 6 pm

- River Street Tree Update
- David interested in how we can increase urban forest in Hailey. Suggested recommending that for every tree that is taken down, its replaced with two trees
- Develop a plan for Kiwanis Tree Care

Adjourn: Chair Linda Ries adjourned meeting at 7:43