

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

Thursday August 11, 2022 at 6:00PM

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

**Attendance:**

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

**Committee Members:** Linda Ries, Jim Rineholt, Kelsey Paxson, David Antilla, Mike McKenna

**Guest:** Ned Williamson

**Approval of June minutes:** Motion by Jim to approve, seconded by Kelsey. All approved.

**New Business**

Box Elder Trees at 525 N 1<sup>st</sup> Ave

Property owner, Ned Williamson, expressed concern over two Box Elder trees on the north side of his property, that are located in the Right of Way. He noted that he considers the trees to be a danger, and listed multiple signs that the trees may fail. In addition, there is a Cox Communications cable that runs directly through the tree canopy of both trees. Linda acknowledged the danger that the trees pose in their current condition, Kelsey agreed that the trees need further evaluation to determine whether they can be improved or need to be removed. Kelsey made a motion for the City to request an estimate for removal of both trees and the recommendation of the tree company in regard to tree longevity, after which the City will determine whether to remove or service the trees. Motion was seconded by Jim, approved unanimously.

Review of Luxury Car Rental Proposal

Committee noted that this is a difficult location for trees, need trees to be hardy due to sun exposure. Kelsey noted that tree height should be considered due to commercial building signage. Committee agreed that proposed Flowering Crab Apples are not hardy enough for this location Kelsey made a motion to recommend Triumph Elm, Swamp White Oak, or Bur Oak, David seconds, approved unanimously. Committee also recommended planting heat and sun tolerant trees on western side of the building, the proposed Autumn Blaze Maples will struggle in that location. The Committee suggested that Lindens would do better in the proposed Autumn Blaze Maple location, or Oak, or another species that can tolerate heat for this location.

Review 303 & 305 4<sup>th</sup> Ave N Encroachment Request

Property owners cancelled request, will plant trees on private property, not in right of way.

Recommendation on Skate Park Tree Removal

Staff and two members of the Tree Committee who attended the June Parks and Lands Board meeting reported that the Parks and Lands Board voted to remove the five central trees in the Hailey Skate Park, and to prune the trees in the Northeast section of the park to increase visibility. The reasons for this recommendation were: these were not the appropriate tree species for this site, the trees leave debris in the park causing safety hazards for park users, the root system of the Douglas fir trees may cause issues with the concrete over time, the site

where the trees are currently planted is planned to be used for a future shade covering for the park. The trees in the north east portion of the park are causing visibility issues for park users. Kelsey recommended that they be pruned to raise the canopy up while maintaining the health of the trees. Kelsey noted that some of the Aspen trees along the South edge of the park are failing and should be removed. He recommended replacing them with a different species of tree. Kelsey made a motion to remove the five central trees, prune the other trees within the park to increase visibility, if possible incorporate some live plant material where trees were removed, and plant additional trees around edge of park if feasible. Jim seconds, all in favor.

#### September Our Town Ideas:

- Linda will draft a piece on Ips beetle issues with Spruce, she will share with Jim and Kelsey for review.
- Share information on best watering practices for trees in drought, committee noted that the public is trying to be responsible with water consumption but are killing their trees, they need to be reminded to run water longer not more often to deep water the trees.

#### Volunteer Opportunities:

- Linda will coordinate with the Wood River Land Trust on a volunteer day at the Arboretum to be held after Labor Day
- Committee would like to host a volunteer day to dig out tree circles around Sunbeam Subdivision trees, Emily will follow up on whose jurisdiction the park falls under
- Committee expressed interest in Volunteer Tree Committee shirts to hand out to trained volunteers who will have a more official presence and help bring recognition to the tree committee

#### Arboretum MOU

- Hailey Tree Committee will adopt the Arboretum along with ArborCare, and will bear responsibility the health of all other vegetation at the Arboretum. The Tree Committee will also organize education and outreach efforts. The Committee is interested in the Arboretum being a pollinator garden, Linda will create a list of what to care for and best practices.
- David offered to help re-design the Arboretum entry sign
- Linda broached the topic of starring a non-profit, "Trees for Hailey" to advocate for all trees in Hailey, including the Arboretum

#### Arbor Day Tree Update

- All trees planted this year and last year are in good health, Emily will check with Jim on using a hose at Kiwanis to refill tree gator on the Hackberry.
- Linda noted that she really appreciates the efforts that have been made to help preserve the trees

#### Committee Comments

- Linda put 14 year stickers on Tree City USA signs, she will follow up with Gerry Bates on Growth Award Banner and will find out if we can get a new Tree City Sign for the North Hailey location.

- Maple Tree has soft scale at Roberta McKercher – Emily will check with Alpine about treating it
- Missed window to purchase replacement tree at the corner of Main and Croy, Kelsey and Linda agreed to wait until next spring to get a better tree to plant there, Kelsey suggested a Triumph Elm

Kelsey motioned to adjourn, Jim seconds, Linda adjourns the meeting at 7:08.