

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

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 6:00 pm

Public Comment – none

Present: HTC members David Antilla, Kelsey Paxson, Kate Driscoll, Linda Ries and Jim Rineholt (online)

Hailey City Staff – Amy Bain

Chair David Antilla called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. Linda Ries agreed to take minutes.

Approval of Jan 8, 2025 minutes: Linda made motion, Kelsey 2nd, passed

New Business:

Elect Chair and Vice Chair. After some discussion, David said he was interested in being Chair again. Jim said he would be interested in Vice Chair as well ask Kelsey. Jim said he would be happy to have Kelsey be the Vice Chair. Motion to elect David as Chair by Linda, 2nd by Kate. All voted in favor. Motion by Linda to elect Kelsey as Vice Chair, Jim 2nd. All voted in favor.

Kathy Bell resignation: Linda passed around a card to sign to wish Kathy well and to thank her for all her help. Linda will bring the card to Jim to sign then take the card and book to Kathy before she moves.

Possible New member: David has someone in mind, and Melanie also has someone in mind. We will not be advertising for the position at this time. NOTE: We have 6 members, a full committee is 7.

Grant updates: Linda shared the news that the large Kiwanis planting project (about \$139,000) has been withdrawn due to the Administration cancellation of all IRA funded projects. In addition, from separate funds, approximately \$55,000 was approved previously to be spent by end of 2025 for tree inventory, tree risk analysis, tree care and planting projects. This has also been cancelled. (**NOTE:** After the meeting the city was notified by Tim McGuire that some funds were made available up to April 30th) Linda said there is a possibility of a Rotary grant to help fund upgrading the Arboretum trail to become ADA compliant. She will work with Brian Yeager and Emily Williams on writing and submitting this request.

2025 Arborfest: This will be held June 14th from 9 am until about 1 pm at the first Hailey Farmer's Market at McKercher Park. Seedlings have been ordered and will be delivered to

Linda's house on May 21st. Melanie will pick up the seedlings before Linda leaves on June 10th and deliver them to the park on June 14th and will stay and help out. Amy has ordered a canopy (thanks!!) and will be helping out that day. David can come to a part of the Arborfest. We need to find a few other volunteers, as having 3 to 4 people there is really helpful!

Arbor Day tree: Linda asked Amy to check with Emily to see if the city applied for the Arbor Day grant from IDL. She said that the Society of American Foresters (SAF) may be able to help sponsor an Arbor Day tree. David suggested working with Webb on purchasing a tree. David also mentioned Santa Barbara Beautiful, a non-profit that helps fund street trees through donors.

Old Business:

Idaho Department of Lands Invasive Pest Monitoring project (for Emerald Ash Borer): Linda can check with Matt Perkins at IDL to see how this turned out.

Bee City USA: discussed whether the Tree Committee would like to go forward. Linda suggested we should, that it is a simple process to apply, and this would be a good opportunity to work on Best Management Practices for tree work as well as other measures to protect bees, especially native bees. We would be the first in the valley and one of only several in the state.

Kiwanis Park tree project: already discussed this during new business.

Staff Report:

Amy gave HTC members a handout with an arborist evaluation of a large spruce in ROW but adjacent to house at 13 E. Spruce St. This handout included the evaluation and a letter to the city and a letter from the home owner. HTC was asked to comment on previously regarding this large spruce. HTC members thanked Amy for the sharing this information. Kelsey mentioned this large spruce would be a good candidate for a moderate level Tree Risk analysis which would also include possible mitigation actions such as cabling to stabilize the forks. Amy said she would mention this suggestion to Brian Yeager.

Discussion of Topics for Next Meeting on April 9, 2025: Possible update on City Master Plan for Bullion Street. Linda said that she will be emailing out some draft language for Construction Standards in next 2 weeks and we could discuss at next meeting.

Chair David adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm