

BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 2026 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order:

Rick called the meeting to order at 5:32 P.M. on Monday, March 16, 2026.

2. Roll Call:

1. Richard (Rick) Kurcab – Chairman - present
 2. Daniel (Danny) Buendia – Vice-chair - present
 3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
 4. Kathy Mitchell – present
 5. Hannah Daniels – present
 6. Paul Buckner – absent
 7. Natalie Peitsmeyer – present
- Quorum – 6/7 in attendance
- Sean Murphy – Town Liaison – present
 - Paul Furnas – Town Forester & Open Space Supervisor – present

3. Approval of Minutes from February 2026 Meeting:

- A quorum was available. Randy moved to approve notes. Kathy 2nd the motion. All voice approved.

4. Public Comment or Non agenda items:

- a. There were no public comments.
- b. Paul clarified that meeting agenda will be available through link on the town website as opposed to him sending it out each month with the meeting notes.
- c. Randy asked if there was any concern about the predicted high incidence of pine bark beetles this summer. Paul felt it is probably more of a concern in the mountains but not so much in the city.
- d. Randy asked if the tree replacement program is active. Paul confirmed it is and he has received one request so far.
- e. The Arboretum support statement was presented by Rick and read into the record. Kathy agreed to take it to the board of trustees and present. Motion to approve by Danny, 2nd by Kathy. All voice approved the adoption of this statement.

The statement is as follows:

The members of the Tree Advisory Committee make a motion to support the approval of the proposed Berthoud Arboretum project. We believe the project, as designed, will be a major asset to the community providing recreational, educational and artistic opportunities. As a gateway to Berthoud, it will continue to grow with the town for generations to come.

5. Discussion Items per agenda:

- a. Growth Award recommendations for 2026
 - 1) Public comment – none
 - 2) Danny did a review and came up with 26 possible points. Some of those points are:
 - a) The tree trimming done by Excel would count as 1 point.
 - b) Species list is worth 3 points.
 - c) Young tree training.
 - d) A.11 Tree worker safety is 4 points.
 - e) A.2 Donation account.
 - f) Tree inventory.

- b. Arbor Day Poster Contest 2026
 - 1) Public comment – none
 - 2) Paul is still looking for a theme for this year's contest.
 - a) Natalie suggested "If Trees Could Talk" or "What is this tree telling me?"
 - 3) Paul is heading into the elementary schools next week to make his presentation.
 - 4) New gift alternatives are being considered as trees cannot always be planted.
 - a) Paul is hoping to get family tickets for the Botanical Gardens to supplement tree handout.
- c. Arbor Day 2026 Planning
 - 1) Public comment – none
 - 2) Arbor Day event is set for Saturday, April 25th.
 - 3) Paul is planning for 7-8 trees to be planted. Types are still to be determined.
 - 4) Location options:
 - a) Along the sidewalk west of Ivy Stockwell Elementary and south of town park.
 - b) The Bike Park.
 - c) In town park along the soft surface trail at the western end of park.
 - 5) The school has asked that there not be flowering trees next to playground due to allergies and attraction of bee's and other insects.
 - 6) Paul still has to prepare the proclamation for presentation to the board of trustees.

Action Items:

- 1. Paul will prepare his list of Growth Awards to pitch.

6. Staff Report:

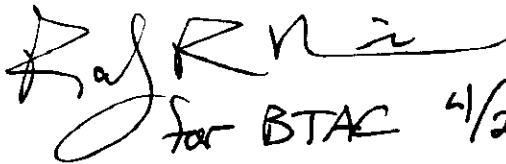
- a. Paul provided an update on staff completed and ongoing work.
 - 1) Young tree pruning was done, about 200 trees.
 - 2) An ash tree at the cemetery had a broken limb that had to be removed.
 - 3) Also at cemetery, preparing stump for grinding.
 - 4) Crew attended chain saw training by the Overland Firefighters.
 - 5) Watering trees continued and plans made to start up irrigation systems early.

7. Adjourn:

- Rick adjourned the meeting at 7:14 P.M. on the 16th day of March 2026.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, April 20th, 2026, at 5:30 pm**

Signature:



for BTAC 4/23/26.