

BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 2023 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order:

Amy Lentz called the meeting to order at 5:07 P.M. on Monday, July 17th, 2023.

2. Roll Call:

1. Toni Baker – Chair – attend via Zoom at 5:15pm
2. Amy Lentz – Vice Chair – present
3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
4. Joe Nesvara – attend via Zoom
5. Lynn Larsen – present
6. Kathy Mitchell – present
7. Hannah Daniels – attend via Zoom

Quorum - 4/7 in attendance, 3/7 via Zoom

- Sean Murphy – Town Liaison – present
- Paul Furnas – Town Forester & Open Space Supervisor – present

3. Approval of Minutes from June 2023 Meeting:

- It was agreed that the minutes from the PORT meeting on the arboretum review should be included with the June 2023 TAC meeting minutes.
- Motion for approval as amended made by Kathy; seconded by Lynn. Approved by all.

4. Public Comment – Non agenda items:

- a. Committee positions to be filled in September 2023
 - 1) Joe Nesvara will not reapply as the 5pm start time is problematic.
 - 2) Amy Lentz feels she will reapply for another 2 years.
 - 3) Lynn Larsen feels he will reapply for another 2 years.

5. Discussion Items:

- a. Landscape Design Guidelines – Tree Selection Review
 - 1) Four pages of the larger document put on screen for review.
 - 2) Sean said he has asked the Trustee's to hold on the approval of entire document until the plant and tree list can be discussed with the Tree Committee.
 - 3) Discussed Master Plant List, Tree List and Prohibited Tree List
 - a) Missing Catalpa, Kentucky Coffeetree, Hackberry. May be a few others.
 - b) Amy felt there are a number of preferred trees missing from this list that need to be added.
 - c) Remove the Red Oak, Shingle Oak due to poor performance in alkaline soils.
 - d) The Sycamore Maple was questioned. Amy and Kathy are not familiar with this tree. Joe did research and found it is approved for zone 4-7. Due to size (40-60 foot) not a good ROW tree.
 - e) London Plain Tree was discussed but Paul said they do not appear to be doing well, so no decision was made on adding them to the list.
 - 4) It was suggested that a note or symbol be added to chart indicating suitability for use as a street or ROW tree.
 - 5) Paul will work on comparing this list with the town website list and attempt to make them match before going to the board for document approval. It is Paul's action to send an approving memo to the Board.

- 6) Joe questioned how this guideline was to be enforced.
 - a) The answer appears to be it will be done during the plan review phase.

Public Comment:

- Linda Wilson-1461 Merrlet St., Berthoud. She expressed concern that the guideline document called for the planting of 4-5 inch trees, contrary to best practices of planting 2 inch trees.

b. Town street tree clearance discussion

- 1) The city has received complaints of tree branches hanging over sidewalks.
- 2) Paul divided the city into 9 regions. After checking first region, had over 100 trees in violation of the town ordinance.
- 3) Heritage Ridge was one location where complaint received. Randy, speaking for the HRMD Landscape Committee, stated that the property manager was putting out a memo to address.
- 4) This topic was to be the public media post for July but deadline missed; will be put in August.
- 5) Some members suggested including with water bill monthly or posting in Surveyor.
- 6) Priority should be medium-sized trees such as in Mary's Farm subdivision.
- 7) One problem is residents difficult in hauling and disposing of tree limbs.
 - a) One suggestion was to have branch clean up day and could be put at curb for disposal.
 - b) Another was to open up land west of Cemetery as branch dump site for later shredding.
- 8) Hannah suggested that a Welcome Packet be sent to new residents which would include this information. Paul will explore possibility with town media rep.
- 9) Violations and subsequent citations by Services rep usually get 80-90% compliance.

Public Comment:

- Linda Wilson-1461 Merrlet St., Berthoud. She pointed out that Colorado legislature has removed ROW responsibility from the homeowners. (*House Bill HB22-1139 "The act prohibits a common interest community's unit owners' association from regulating the use of a public right-of-way"*)

6. Staff Report:

a. Paul provided update:

- 1) The water truck is complete and is used to both spray and inject water to the roots of trees. Picture showing technician doing both tasks.
- 2) Paul and his tech have recently updated their ISA/TRAQ certifications.
- 3) Time is being spent fixing irrigation lines to trees at various locations around the town.
- 4) Pruning of the trees in Pioneer Park continues
- 5) Paul has been inspecting new installations of trees and giving grades to installers to help them improve their procedures.

7. Adjourn:

- Amy adjourned the meeting at 6:25 P.M. on the 17th day of July 2023.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, August 21st, 2023 at 5:00 pm.**

Signature:



for BTAC 8/22/23