

# BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## November 2023 Meeting Minutes

### 1. Call to order:

Toni Baker called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. on Monday, November 20th, 2023.

### 2. Roll Call:

1. Toni Baker – Chair – present
  2. Amy Lentz – Vice Chair – present
  3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
  4. Lynn Larsen – present
  5. Kathy Mitchell – present
  6. Hannah Daniels – attend via Zoom, join 5:23pm. She can listen only as room speakers not working.
  7. Richard (Rick) Kurcab - present
- Quorum - 7/7 either in attendance or via Zoom
- Sean Murphy – Town Liaison – present
  - Paul Furnas – Town Forester & Open Space Supervisor – present

### 3. New officer appointments to the Committee.

- a. Introduction of new member, Rick Kurcab. All members reintroduce themselves and background.
- b. New Officers nominated and voted on
  - 1) Chair: Randy nominated Kathy Mitchell. She accepted. Lynn 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor-Aye.
  - 2) Vice chair: Toni nominated Lynn. He accepted. Kathy 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor-Aye.
  - 3) Secretary: Toni nominated Randy. He accepted. Amy 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor-Aye
- c. Toni explained the nominations were to have been held during Sept. meeting. Officers serve for one year. In Sept. 2024, new officers will be installed.
- d. Meeting time adjustments: All agreed to remain at 5:00 pm
- e. Meeting date adjustments:
  - 1) Jan. 15, 2024 is MLK holiday. Agreed to move to Jan. 22.
  - 2) Feb. 19, 2024 is President holiday. Agreed to move to Feb. 12.

### 4. Approval of Minutes from October 2023 Meeting:

- Motion for approval as-is made by Lynn; seconded by Kathy. Approved by all.

### 5. Public Comment or Non agenda items:

- a. Non-agenda – Hammond Farm new town purchased trees.
  - 1) Randy questioned if Hammond Farm will wrap new trees along Berthoud Pkwy. Paul will follow up.
- b. Non-agenda – Tree Watering during dry spell
  - 1) Amy wanted to remind everyone to water trees as we've had no moisture for the past 2 months.

### 6. Discussion Items:

- a. Tree City USA Application (No public present for comment)
  - 1) Paul will be attempting to get the Growth Award again this year.
  - 2) The organization will need the name and contact information for the new chairperson.
- b. Waggener Arboretum Final Plan Review (No public present for comment)
  - 1) Sean commented that the Town Board is looking at adding a crosswalk across Berthoud Parkway.
  - 2) Sean commented that construction may be phased to do north (ag part) later.

- 3) Randy asked if there will be a physical barrier between the school grounds and arboretum. Paul will check as school grounds maintenance may interfere with Arboretum maintenance.
- 4) Paul thought water would be drawn from the pond to irrigate. Some may dump to canal for flow.
- 5) The gravel lot on the north side is not going to be paved.
- 6) Lynn pointed out current Waggener Farm sign at Mountain/Berthoud Pkwy will either have to be relocated or incorporated into the design.
- 7) Randy suggested "Coming Soon" sign at corner of intersection. Sean will look into doing it.

c. New Tree Cost Share Program discussion (No public present for comment)

- 1) Paul presented the draft of the application.
- 2) The previous program was discontinued due to abuse by the developers.
- 3) Comments from members as follows:
  - a) Provide a package of information on how to properly plant.
  - b) Should include contract language that if tree dies, another replacement is responsibility of homeowner.
  - c) Code requirements for 2" force Balled and Burlapped (B&B) tree be provided.
  - d) This size was included to force developers to put in better quality trees, not toothpicks.
  - e) Rather than change code, could include a variance for homeowners down to 1 1/4" size.
  - f) If code change needed, Sean pointed out Anne Johnson changing code now.
  - g) Budget for program questioned. Paul could use the \$20k he has now for this purpose. Amy pointed out this would be 50 trees at \$400 limit.
  - h) Could add a warranty exclusion that if the tree being replaced is still under builder warranty, that should be pursued first. Limit replacements to 1 per year or 1 per 2-year period.
  - i) Randy suggested the 2" size should clarify that this is Diameter Breast Height (DBH).
  - j) Add comment at bottom of application that for any questions, consult the town arborist.
  - k) Add comment that by signing, acknowledge tree is in good condition.

**7. Staff Report:**

a. Paul provided update:

- 1) At the new Bike Park, the town has spade planted 5 new Blue Spruce about 20' tall.
- 2) His crew has been busy putting up the Christmas lights and finish wrapping trees.
- 3) Paul was told of the recent discovery of Emerald Ash Borer found SW of Berthoud. Discussed wood disposal with contractor who reported it. Amy pointed out the bug is 1 1/4" long so if 1" chips made, should kill infestation. Also, if spread thin, upcoming freeze should kill them.
- 4) This month and into December Paul will be working on the Tree City application.
- 5) Paul showed the ISA website and brochures that could be purchased for handouts at events.
  - <https://www.isa-arbor.com/store/category/41/> Hold Ctrl key and left mouse click to open.

b. Sean provided update:

- 1) The city budget is being finalized now. It includes a new truck and technician for the Forestry Dept for 2024.
- 2) If the TAC needs to purchase anything, the request should be presented to the Trustee's.

**8. Adjourn:**

- Toni adjourned the meeting at 6:57 P.M. on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, December 18th, 2023, at 5:00 pm.**

Signature:

  
for the BTAC 12/23/23