

BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 2023 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order:

Kathy Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. on Monday, December 18th, 2023.

2. Roll Call:

1. Kathy Mitchell – Chair – present
 2. Lynn Larsen – Vice Chair – present
 3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
 4. Toni Baker – present
 5. Hannah Daniels – present
 6. Richard (Rick) Kurcab – present
 7. Amy Lentz – joined via Zoom
- Quorum - 7/7 either in attendance or via Zoom
- Sean Murphy – Town Liaison – present
 - Paul Furnas – Town Forester & Open Space Supervisor – present

3. Approval of Minutes from November 2023 Meeting:

- Two corrections requested. 1-Hannah clarified her computer working fine on Zoom calls and the problem appears to be with the meeting room speakers. 2-the nomination of the Vice Chair was made by Toni for Lynn, not Amy.
- Motion for approval with corrections made by Toni; seconded by Lynn. Approved by all.

4. Public Comment or Non agenda items:

- a. Non-agenda – Paul provided copies of ISA pamphlets. Passed around for all to review. Will be available for handout at events where Forestry has a booth. <https://www.isa-arbor.com/store/category/41/>
- b. Non-agenda – Anne Johnson, Berthoud Community Development Director.
 - 1) She pointed out that the Landscape Design Guidelines were approved by the Board of Trustees at the end of November.
 - 2) Sean amended this information via email post-meeting that they were passed 11/28/2023. Supplemental municipal codes supporting the document passed on 12/12/2023.

5. Discussion Items:

- a. Approval of First quarter 2024 Social Media Posts
 - 1) January: checking trees for pruning requirements. Mature trees.
 - 2) February: Pruning requirements: Mature trees.
 - 3) March: Street Tree Work Permit information.
 - 4) Lynn asked if the March post shouldn't go ahead of Jan, Feb so people get permit before pruning.
 - 5) Paul agreed to add a link to the Forestry page for the permit at end of Jan and Feb posts.
 - 6) Rick asked for an explanation of the social media posts. Paul explained that these posts are put up on Facebook and Instagram. Not yet on Nextdoor.
- b. Update on 2024 Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) treatment schedule
 - 1) In 2024, Paul will be doing the A-Rotation, mainly old neighborhoods north of Mountain.
 - 2) Bidders had been requesting this bid process to start earlier.
 - 3) The treatment chemical is out of patent restrictions, which may lead to lower prices.
 - 4) Treatments to start in May/June 2024 time frame.
 - 5) Randy asked if Thompson School District does EAB on their own trees. Answer no.

6. Staff Report:

a. Paul provided update:

- 1) Picture of the 5 new Blue Spruce at the new bike park.
- 2) The little trees on Main/Mountain Street are Dwarf Alberta Spruces with decorations.
- 3) The STEP trees planted previously; Heritage River Birch are all dead now.
 - Turkish Filbert tree planted in NW corner of Fickel Park is doing well. Nebraska supplier.
- 4) At the town park, all demolition is complete. Snow fencing around perimeter of the trees to remain is not in good condition. Paul is having to water these trees and will continue to check the contractor's protection.
- 5) Town Cemetery – three trees that were dead have been removed. 1-maple, 2-oaks. Replacement at the same location may be a problem. Not sure if they were memorial trees; no indication or signage to indicate.
- 6) The chip truck is available now and will start shredding stockpile. Diseased chips may be a disposal problem.
- 7) Paul working on Forestry web page updates as time and weather allows.
- 8) The Tree City USA application is complete and submitted.
- 9) Hammond Farm trees look to have been wrapped and water bags put on the new town-purchased trees.
- 10) For 2024, it looks like the town Board approved a third forestry tech. Paul will be putting out advertisement for the position in the new year.

b. Sean provided update:

- 1) The Landscape Design Guidelines may be posted or linked to the Forestry website.
- 2) Paul would like feedback on the guidelines once posted to the Forestry page. Toni suggested including a hyperlink as a Table of Contents or Index.

7. Adjourn:

- Kathy adjourned the meeting at 5:57 P.M. on the 18th day of December 2023.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 22nd, 2024, at 5:00 pm** which is the 4th Monday of the month to avoid conflict with MLK holiday on the 3rd Monday.

Signature:


For the BTAC 01/23/24