

BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 2024 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order:

Kathy Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:32 P.M. on Monday, December 16th, 2024.

2. Roll Call:

1. Kathy Mitchell – Chair – present
2. Hannah Daniels – Vice Chair – present
3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
4. [Vacant seat]
5. Lynn Larsen – present
6. Richard (Rick) Kurcab – present
7. Amy Lentz – present

Quorum – 6/7 in attendance

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

3. Approval of Minutes from November 2024 Meeting:

- One minor correction to change line 6.a.6 word from Forestry to Forestry.
- Motion for approval was made by Lynn, seconded by Randy. Approved by all.

4. Public Comment or Non agenda items:

- a. Paul said future meetings will not include a Zoom capability since meetings are being recorded on city You Tube account. If someone needs to participate remotely, contact Paul ahead of time to make special arrangements.
- b. Lynn offered suggestions to improve tree planting practices
 - 1) Perforated pipes with gravel fill placed to water deep roots
 - 2) Plastic wraps around bottom of trees to avoid string trimmer damage.
 - 3) Amy said not to use black plastic as this would cause overheating of base.
- c. Sean offered a Town Board update to say the Arboretum design may be finished by the 3rd quarter of 2025.
- d. Kathy asked about the open position. Sean will see if advertisement can be posted again.

5. Discussion Items:

- a. Review 12 months of tree care tips outline.
 - 1) Public comment – none.
 - 2) Paul is still developing the monthly tree care tips. Looked at Jan-Feb-Mar he has done so far.
 - 3) QR code on the calendar is not active yet.
 - 4) He plans to make all 12 months available.
 - 5) It was suggested that a link to relevant town videos be included.
 - 6) April tip could be tree planting instructions to assist with Arbor Day effort.
 - 7) Spring months suggestions include mulch and tree watering guidelines.
 - 8) Summer months suggestion for deep root watering.
 - 9) Fall month suggestion for identifying signs of stress.
- b. 2025 social media post schedule
 - 1) Jan – winter watering since it has been so dry and hot lately rather than Street Tree Permits.
- c. Calendars have been distributed to businesses and schools.
 - 1) A few are left which Kathy suggested be given to Library for handout.

d. Forestry in 2024 review

- 1) Budget for 2025 has been set.
 - a) Committee reminded Paul that a small wagon or cart is needed to haul things to booths.
 - b) It was suggested that a standing or feather banner be purchased to advertise location.
- 2) The Tree Inventory program will be funded to allow Forestry to get a paid account for better useability. New employee has experience with the program from previous employment.
- 3) Arbor Day 2025 is planned for Pioneer Park where 5-7 spots for planting will be available.
- 4) There are more tree walks planned.
- 5) Paul is looking at participating in STEM nights at schools with Tree Talks.
- 6) Kathy suggested Tree Talks be scheduled at Library as well. Past talks have been successful
- 7) The forestry team will participate in more tree climbing training to better access trees not reachable by the boom truck.
- 8) Town event participation. Arbor Day, Berthoud Day, Oktoberfest.
- 9) Forestry has acquired new pots for main street flowers. Kathy said gardeners have gotten a lot of positive comments about these.
- 10) New tree types continue to be explored. A Hardy Rubber tree and Bald Cypress were planted in Fickel Park. Continue to watch if they are successful.
- 11) Fertilizing of trees will be done in coming year especially those in new town park.
- 12) IPS treatment of trees in cemetery.
- 13) Plan is for 17 new trees at dog park. Irrigation was added this year to support them. There have been many calls for better shade and current trees seem to be growing well.
- 14) There was a Buckeye tree moved from Town Park during construction to the Bike Park. It was hit hard by hail, but hope is that it will come back.
- 15) The electric chain and pole saw are working out well and are preferred tools.
- 16) Tree City Growth Award was earned. Required 19 points.
- 17) Paul was disappointed with low number of street tree work permits in 2024 (Only 28). Several submissions allowed him to catch people attempting to plant prohibited trees.

Staff Report:

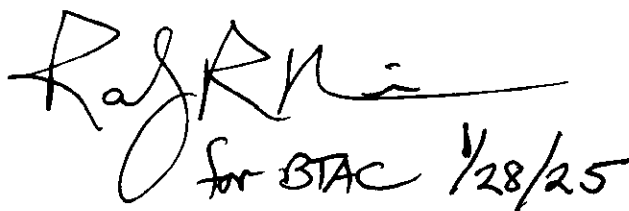
- a. Paul provided update – verbal only.
 - 1) Christmas light installation is done except on-going repairs due to squirrel damage.
 - 2) New employee intends to stick around making work plans easier.
- b. Lynn informed us that he will not be able to attend the January meeting.

6. Adjourn:

- Kathy adjourned the meeting at 6:37 P.M. on the 16th day of December 2024.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 27th, 2025, at 5:30 pm**

Signature:



for BTAC 1/28/25