

BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 2025 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order:

Kathy Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. on Monday, June 16th, 2025.

2. Roll Call:

1. Kathy Mitchell – Chair – present
2. Hannah Daniels – Vice Chair – present
3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
4. Daniel (Danny) Buendia - present
5. Lynn Larsen– present
6. Richard (Rick) Kurcab – present
7. Amy Lentz – present

Quorum – 7/7 in attendance

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

3. Approval of Minutes from May 2025 Meeting:

- Motion to approve made by Randy. Second by Hannah. Approved by all with no changes.

4. Public Comment or Non agenda items:

- a. Randy asked to discuss the poster voting for calendar.
 - 1) It was thought that looking for sponsors would be a good way to increase the budget.
 - 2) Jeremy Olinger (audience member) suggested that we document the opportunities and have preset amounts such as \$500, \$1,000.
 - 3) We could approach garden centers; tree companies and others related to forestry.
 - 4) Kathy offered to help promote this effort.
 - 5) Hannah asked if the town had similar sponsor programs we could emulate for forestry.
 - a) It was thought Parks and Historic committees had done something similar.
 - 6) Paul will contact Windsor to see how they have done this for past calendars.

5. Discussion Items:

- a. Waggener Arboretum
 - 1) Public comment – none.
 - 2) It was noted that the combined group of Trustees, PORT committee and Forestry would meet to discuss the details of the 60% DDs after this meeting.
 - 3) Paul stated that he has made several additions to his comments on the tree selection page.
 - 4) Amy noted that the designer should avoid the Arborvitae type of trees due to poor survival.
 - 5) There was a suggestion that small pines or Tannenbaum be planted in their place.
 - 6) Hannah suggested that a weather station be added to track local conditions.
 - 7) Sean suggested that an air quality station might be a good idea to add but noted they can be expensive.
 - 8) Phasing of the tree planting was discussed in the event funding becomes a problem. It was thought that rather than planting section by section, it would look better if the entire area received some percentage of the eventual number of trees so it would not look sparse.
 - 9) The question was raised whether the Forestry budget would be supplemented to cover the care of 800 new trees. It was suggested that a dedicated staff member be hired for the arboretum.
 - 10) In the grass areas, it may take 5 years to establish. Amy asked if there was a good cover crop such as oats or rye that would help establish the areas.

- 11) Berthoud Day visitors were asking about volunteer opportunities. It was thought that a program could be set up to pair volunteers with Master Gardeners to assist the Forestry department with certain tasks during the maintenance phase of the arboretum.

b. Q3 Social Media Posts

- 1) Public comment – none
- 2) June: Paul is still trying to get this one written and posted to the website.
- 3) July post will focus on tree watering
- 4) August post is still under consideration. Currently looking at mature tree topics for the trees in the older part of town.
- 5) September. Paul is still looking for ideas.
- 6) There was a suggestion that a Neighborhood Tree Watch be set up for volunteers to go out to look for problems to bring to the attention of residents and the Forestry department.

6. Staff Report:

a. Paul provided update on completed and ongoing work.

- 1) A cottonwood on 4th street lost a branch that fell on a car.
- 2) This is the second property damage reported this year.
- 3) Staff completed setting up the pots on Main Street.
- 4) At the skate park there was damage found to a tree.
- 5) The Pioneer Park garden trees were re-mulched.
- 6) The Hillsdale nursery received an irrigation overhaul to support an upcoming planting project.
- 7) There were ongoing repairs to the irrigation system on Main Street. When these systems are shut down for the winter, staff will remove the backflow preventers to avoid damage.

7. Adjourn:

- Kathy adjourned the meeting at 6:21 P.M. on the 16th day of June 2025.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 21st, 2025, at 5:30 pm

Signature:


Raj RN
for BTAC 8/20/25