

# BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## October 2025 Meeting Minutes

### **1. Call to order:**

Kathy Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:33 P.M. on Monday, October 20, 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. Paul Buckner – present
  6. Richard (Rick) Kurcab – present
  7. Natalie Peitsmeyer – present
- Quorum – 7/7 in attendance
- Sean Murphy – Town Liaison – present
  - Paul Furnas – Town Forester & Open Space Supervisor – present

### **3. Elect new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for 2025-2026**

- a. Nominations for Chair
  - 1) Kathy nominated Rick Kurcab, Randy provided 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor-Aye from all.
- b. Nominations for Vice Chair
  - 1) Rick nominated Danny Buendia for Vice Chair. All in favor-Aye from all.
- c. Nominations for Secretary
  - 1) Kathy nominated Randy Niece for Secretary. All in favor-Aye from all.
- d. Introduction to Committee for new members
  - 1) Natalie introduced herself and gave background, experience and reason for joining.
  - 2) Paul introduced himself and gave background, experience and reason for joining.
  - 3) Remainder of committee members introduced themselves.

### **4. Approval of Minutes from September Meeting:**

- A quorum was available. Danny moved to approve notes. Seconded. All voice approved.

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

- a. There were no public comments.
- b. Paul brought up calendar conflict in January and February with Federal Holidays.
  - 1) January 19<sup>th</sup> tentatively moved to January 26. Paul to check on availability of room.
  - 2) February 16<sup>th</sup> tentatively moved to February 23. Paul to check on availability of room.
- c. Other relevant dates to put on calendar.
  - 1) Arbor Day, picking the date to put on the calendar. It will be the last Saturday of April, April 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2) January 29<sup>th</sup> is the Science Fair for participation.
- d. Berthoud GIS coordination with the Colorado Tree inventory was discussed.
- e. Berthoud has received complaints about tree cutting around town.
  - 1) This is being done by Wright Tree Service working for Excel to make clearance around power lines.
- f. Randy asked about progress of town effort to make HOA/Metro replant dead and missing trees.
- g. Question was raised about Cost Share program for ROW trees.
  - 1) Town will not cost share for removal, only considered for replacements.
  - 2) Paul may be able to offer the program during years of budget excess.
- h. Sean noted that any issue the committee wants to advance, he would carry forward for us.

**6. Discussion Items:**

- a. Emerald Ash Borer found in Berthoud
  - 1) Public comment - none
  - 2) Samples were sent to CSU for verification before making the announcement.
  - 3) The tree was found in the north side of town near Berthoud Reservoir.
  - 4) The town added a special webpage to explain the EAB problem in depth.
    - a) Paul asked committee members to review the 2020 EAB plan (22 pgs) for possible updates.
  - 5) Hannah asked, "what is the goal of EAB program"?
    - a) Find trees throughout town that are at risk.
    - b) Educate public on decision points for what to do with tree. Paul may put on web page.
    - c) Outreach via door hangers.
    - d) Ash trees sales in Colorado were stopped in 2012 due to EAB.
    - e) There are two types of traps that may be placed around town.
  - 6) Paul will check the contract for EAB treatment to see if residents can be added.
    - a) May lead to a conflict of interest. Needs to be investigated further.
- b. Calendar Progress
  - 1) Public comment - none
  - 2) Paul said the calendar and posters are to the designer/printer for assembly.
  - 3) We hope to have the finished product out mid-December for distribution.
  - 4) We did not look for sponsors this year as Paul's budget should cover the cost this year.
    - a) May look at sponsors for next year to increase quantity.
    - b) Possible sponsors-Tree Care companies, Tree providers, Northern Water.

**7. Staff Report:**

- a. Paul provided a quick update on staff completed and ongoing work.
  - 1) 26 new trees were planted.
    - a) 10 at Bike Park
    - b) 7 at Hillsdale
    - c) 5 at Waggener
  - 2) Other planting locations
    - a) Berthoud Parkway and 10<sup>th</sup> St ROW – 2 Apricot trees
    - b) 1<sup>st</sup> Street at roundabout
    - c) Pioneer Park ROW
    - d) Berthoud Reservoir
  - 3) Perennial Planting
    - a) Nebraska, Waggener, Pioneer
  - 4) STEP tree planting, White Oak
    - a) 1 at Hillsdale, Waggener, Pioneer, Bike Park
  - 5) Tree pruning along Nielson Greenway trail
  - 6) EAB Spotting and outreach.

**8. Adjourn:**

- Kathy adjourned the meeting at 7:18 P.M. on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 5:30 pm

Signature:



Rod Rhee  
for BTAC 11/18/25