

Berthoud Tree Advisory Committee (TAC)

March 2022 Meeting Minutes

3/28/2022

Call to order:

Bob Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M. MDT on Monday, March 28th, 2022.

Roll Call:

In person: Bob Schneider
Amy Lentz
Lynn Larsen
Josh Embrey
Paul Furnas

By Zoom: Joe Nesvara

Approval of Minutes from February 2022 Meeting:

Lynn Larsen moved to approve; motion was seconded by Amy Lentz.

Public Comment:

No public comments.

Staff Report and Committee Updates:

- Forester Embrey introduced new staff member, Forestry Technician Paul Furnas. Paul has a pesticide application license. Committee members introduced ourselves to Paul.
- Chairman Bob Schneider announced that member Allen Owen has been on the Committee for 10 years, would like to be replaced, and probably would not attend future meetings. Bob reminded committee members that both he and Allen were serving on special “extended” appointments from the Board of Trustees, since their terms of office had technically expired in September 2021. Forester Embrey was asked to check on the status of those two positions. He advised that the positions were advertised, but that TAC was not seen by the public as “exciting” as other committees.
- Forester Embrey reported that spruce removal and stump grinding at the cemetery was in progress. Staff was also working on filling in with other species.
- Forester Embrey reported that staff had completed removal of Russian Olive trees in the Hillsdale area and were treating the area to prevent re-growth.
- Forester Embrey advised that staff was pursuing code enforcement, and that trees on private property would only be addressed if diseased.
- Forester Embrey advised that Tree City signs were updated just that day. He stated that Berthoud had been recognized as such for 39 years, and that 2022 would be our 40th year. He also noted that Berthoud had received a Growth Award for the 11th year; this award is given for going above and beyond the requirements for the typical Tree City recognition.

- Forester Embrey reported that purchase orders were going out to two contractors for tree pruning in 2022.
- Forester Embrey reported that preparations for the new Roberts Lake tree nursery would take place that week, and that trees would be picked up on April 14.

Arbor Day Celebration

- Forester Embrey reported that the Trustees had approved and the Mayor had signed the official Arbor Day Proclamation, and he would send copies to committee members. He advised that the national Arbor Day designation is the last Friday in April, but that in Colorado it is the third Friday. Our Berthoud event will take place at a location in Waggoner Farm Park near the recreation center on Saturday, April 23 at 10 A.M. The precise location was still TBD. While a local Girl Scout group wants to have a hands-on participation, the tree is larger than can be safely handled by these youth. The staff was planning an accompanying activity of planting flowers in pots that the girls could take home.
- Forester Embrey advised that information on Berthoud's fourth Arbor Day poster contest for 3rd – 5th graders had been sent to the schools and the Girl Scouts. The winners would be awarded a Colorado Blue Spruce to take home and plant.
- During committee discussion, it was noted that FFA, 4-H and Boy Scouts also had activities and requirements that involved care of trees. Forester Embrey remarked that FFA and 4-H could also be approached for participation, but that the Boy Scouts had little interest.
- Bob noted that committee member Allen Owen had read a short history of Arbor Day at past events, including related activities of the Colorado Forest Service. Chairman Schneider asked if the Mayor or other Town representative would attend to read the Mayor's Proclamation.

Discussion of Homeowner Education Improvements:

- The committee continues to discuss ways to educate homeowners about their responsibility for care of trees in the tree lawns. Forester Fumare said something seemed "to have gone right" in the Mary's Farm/Fickel Farm neighborhoods.
- Amy sent graphics and slides she developed for use on posters and for education classes/meetings. Committee members were enthusiastic about her efforts. Amy requested additional feedback.
- Bob suggested that the town should compile a list of neighborhood contacts to whom education materials could be sent. He emphasized that we need community participation. He noted that information gets lost with residents moving in and out, and that renters may not get information at all. Lynn said he would see if the committee could obtain contact information for HOAs and Metro Districts.
- Committee members agreed that we need to distribute materials through multiple outlets. In addition to those previously discussed, the Berthoud Food Bank webpage was mentioned.
- Bob emphasized that the Mayor and Trustees have to want a forested town for tree education to be a success.
- The committee will continue discussions at the next meeting.

Other Business:

- Forester Embrey suggested that the committee develop goals for what it wants to accomplish. This would include how to impact the community.

Adjourn:

Bob Schneider adjourned the meeting at 7:36 P.M. MDT on the 28th day of March 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17th, 2022.