

MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Deborah Kadlec
Chair

~Minutes~

David Schott
Staff Liaison

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/557/Tree-Commission>

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

5:00 PM

206 E. 3rd St. Mayor's Conference Room

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM.

PRESENT: Daniel Cronan; Clark J Filip, Vice Chair; Lauren Goss; Debbie Kadlec, Chair;
David Rauk (arrived at 5:07 PM)

ABSENT: Mary Jo Hamilton, Secretary.

STAFF: Donna Howard; David Schott, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director; Gina Taruscio, City Council Liaison.

OTHER: Mark Heinlein, Parks & Recreation Commissioner.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes (ACTION ITEM) - Kadlec

Staff presented the draft minutes from the February 5, 2019 meeting for review and approval.

ACTION: Approve minutes as presented.

Goss motioned to approve the February 5, 2019 meeting minutes as presented and Filip seconded. Acclamation vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: Kadlec. Absent: Hamilton. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment Period

Only for items not listed on the agenda, including responses to previous comments/questions from the public. There were none.

3. 2019 Arbor Day Preparation (ACTION ITEM) – Kadlec/Rauk

The MTC worked on finalizing the venue, program, site and tree selection for Arbor Day on Friday, April 26, 2019. Rauk went over the checklist he emailed to the MTC members for items needing attention. Rauk will request permission to use the vacant tree well on 7th Street, near Moscow Family Medicine. Kadlec and Schott will meet at Gritman with the chair of their Green Team at 2:30 PM on Tuesday, March 12th to arrange the event's start time, ask if Gritman can provide an indoor space for the speeches and invite their staff to attend. Rauk has reserved 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on the Mayor's calendar until the event time is confirmed. Schott will request representation from Idaho Department of Lands, issue a City Press Release, contact city agencies regarding closing a section of 7th Street for the event, bring planting tools including the ceremonial shovel and have his staff prep the planting site. Rauk will bring the trifold display. Cronan volunteered to be the event photographer. Rauk asked who could assist with tree seedling bagging on Tuesday, April 23rd at 2:00 PM at the University of Idaho Research Nursery, 1025 Plant Science Road. Schott and Taruscio will help bag the seedlings. Cronan, Filip and Goss won't be able to help that day but Cronan will offer this activity as a volunteer opportunity to his students in exchange for class extra credit. Rauk will store and transport the seedlings to the event and, if any are leftover, take

them to Farmers Market on Saturday May 4th. Rauk will update the flyer from previous years and Schott's staff will print them. Rauk would like to incorporate the healing benefits of trees in the talking points and Schott suggested the topic of street tree selection as an education piece. The group discussed some possible trees, including oaks or male ginkgoes, and Schott requested a few alternatives in case he had trouble locating one in area nurseries. Schott said the tree well's distance from buildings allowed a good sized tree at maturity and suggested planting a tree known for being aphid resistant and drought tolerant. Kadlec appreciated Rauk's thorough checklist.

NO ACTION: Arbor Day will be finalized at the MTC April meeting, pending the March 12th meeting with Gritman.

4. Consideration of 2019 Goals (ACTION ITEM) – Kadlec

The Tree Commission discussed potential goals for 2019. Schott shared a rough draft of goals from the Tree City USA's Growth Award. Schott explained that the goals didn't have to be based solely on the Growth Award and could be annual or long term in nature. The group also looked over historic MTC goals Rauk emailed in December 2018. Schott suggested the group work on a preliminary list tonight, he will email to them his outline of ideas to help them form goals, requested responses before the next meeting and offered to bring a refined list in April for final approval. Cronan suggested the development of an educational pamphlet for the Harvest Park and getting involved in carbon sequestration projects. Rauk proposed an annual training or CEU program for the City's Licensed Contractors and Certified Tree Workers. Rauk asked if the MTC members would please rank the goals to allow them to be prioritized.

NO ACTION: Continue working on goals for 2019 for the Tree Commission; finalize at the April meeting.

5. Fall Classes for the Parks and Recreation Catalog - Schott

The submittal deadline for fall classes, offered August 1st through November 30th, is in early June. The Commission discussed class ideas, instructors/contacts and brief descriptions. Schott wanted to keep this topic on the agenda throughout the year to generate and consolidate class ideas. Kadlec asked how it's working with Greg Morrison facilitating the classes; Schott replied it is going well. He said the MTC's classes being offered in the April 1st catalog include a Trees of Idaho class and a landscaping class taught by Cronan and former MTC member David Griffith. There was a discussion about adding a summer class on pruning for manageability to the existing spring courses about fruit tree pruning. Schott asked the commissioners to please email him class ideas.

6. Edible Forest Park Status Report – Schott

The City of Moscow has been working on the conceptual plan for the Edible Forest Park. Schott said that the City's Public Works Department is expected to issue a bid request in November 2019 for construction in Fiscal Year 2021 of a water booster station at the Edible Forest Park. That affects Schott's budget request timeline as the City won't be able to begin construction on the park until after that project is completed. Schott believes the delay will allow community involvement and better planning for the park's funding and development. Depending on everyone's schedules, Schott wants to have the joint meeting in April 2019 with Parks and Recreation Commission, Tree Commission and Bernardo Wills Architects.

7. Open Discussion

Filip asked if anyone knew what happened to wood chips after trees were trimmed in Moscow; a discussion followed about area organizations who could help provide mulch and compost. Taruscio observed how the MTC was willing to collaborate with other commissions and agencies for the benefit of Moscow's citizens and trees and expressed appreciation for their efforts.

Kadlec shared that Denice Moffat asked if anyone was interested in touring her farm in Elk River, ID where she practices permaculture farming. Filip was familiar with Moffat's farm and would like to attend; Goss and Cronan were also interested. The group discussed other local permaculture enthusiasts and educational resources. Kadlec viewed this as an opportunity to explore organic, holistic practices at work with the chance to learn techniques that could be used at the Edible Forest Park. The logistics of the MTC meeting in an unofficial capacity were also considered including avoiding a quorum meeting outside of an official capacity and that they need to refrain from discussing City business during the tour.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS:

1. Next meeting April 2, 2019. Goss will not be able to attend.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM.

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Minutes Approved On


Clerk/Deputy Signature