

MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert
Commission Chair

Heritage Tree Ad Hoc Committee
Meeting
~ Minutes ~

David Schott
Staff Liaison

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

Wednesday
June 16, 2021

4:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm.

PRESENT: Pamela Brunsfeld; Zena Hartung; MaryJo Hamilton.

STAFF: Donna Howard; David Schott.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from May 5, 2021 (ACTION ITEM) - Hamilton

Minutes presented for approval.

ACTION: Approve minutes as presented.

Brunsfeld moved and Hartung seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Ad Hoc Committee regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Committee. There were none.

3. Review of Moscow Heritage Tree Program Documentation (ACTION ITEM) – Schott

The ad hoc committee will review documentation of Moscow Heritage Tree Program.

ACTION: Approve the documentation of the Moscow Heritage Tree Program; or take such actions deemed appropriate.

The group looked at and discussed documents used by the cities of Spokane and Coeur d'Alene for their program, as well as the newsletters created by the City of Moscow in 1999 and 2000. Schott said the ad hoc committee will establish the criteria for the trees to be included in the program then the Moscow Tree Commission (MTC) members will decide which trees to add to the registry. He suggested there be a process included for any trees denied admittance to the program. Hamilton suggested having 25 trees included in the first Heritage Tree registry. After the initial pilot program, additional trees will be added at regular intervals. Schott suggested that if the MTC commissioners had friends or acquaintances to nominate, that would work, but dislikes the idea of nominating homeowner's trees without a previous relationship. Hartung agreed that walking up to a stranger's door could be awkward and Schott added he wouldn't want citizens to feel pressured by the City to participate in this program. Hartung suggested looking at the list for the program from 20 years ago. A discussion followed on nominating a tree on one's own or not their own property; if all the forms would be required for self-nominations; if public, memorial, dedicated and trail trees could be considered; accepting donations for the program; allowing groups to adopt trees or a section of trail for care and maintenance. Hartung thought some of the wording was heavy-handed; Schott will work on softening it up and then turn it over to the City Attorney for her approval following consideration by the Moscow Tree Commission. Hamilton suggested adding a line to the form to allow new homeowners to opt out of the program should the property change ownership.

ACTION: No action; items will be discussed further and decided upon at a subsequent meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / DISCUSSION

Schott tasked the group with homework assignments to create criteria and goals. He also wanted to have a guideline, if a tree isn't allowed into the registry, there needs to be a clear and specific reason. The MTC will need precise direction on the goals and criteria. Schott requested the commissioners email it to him before the next meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next meeting: July 21, 2021 (not July 14 as listed on the 06/16/2021 agenda); 4:00 P.M.; Mayors Conference Room

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm.

Minutes Approved On

JUL 13 2021

Denise Howard
Clerk/Deputy Signature