

MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert
Commission Chair

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

David Schott
Staff Liaison

tree@ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7098

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

Tuesday
June 3, 2025

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

PRESENT: Mary Jo Hamilton; Pamela Brunsfeld, Ellis Eifert; David Rauk; Jeanne Leffingwell

STAFF: David Schott; Gina Taruscio (Council)

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission April 1, 2025 Minutes (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert

Presentation of minutes for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff further direction.

Mary Jo moved to approve the minutes as presented. David seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Jeanne. Motion carried.

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

None

3. Consideration of the Fall Farmers Market Tree Seedlings (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott

The Tree Commission is slated to have a table on September 27, 2025, for the Farmers Market to give away fall tree seedlings. The commission has \$500 to purchase seedlings from Pitkin Nursery to increase trees planted in Moscow. The commission will discuss seedling selections for the 2025 Fall Farmers Market seedling give away.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the fall seedlings for September 27, 2025, Farmers Market; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Group agreed on ponderosa pine, red flowering current and dogwood with alternate being the Bur English oak.

Jeanne moved to approve the proposed seedlings. Mary Jo seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Jeanne. Motion carried.

4. Consideration of the 2026 Arbor Day Celebration (ACTION ITEM) – David Rauk / David Schott

In the past, the Tree Commission has had discussions regarding partnering with the University of Idaho (UI) for an Arbor Day celebration. The university has indicated they would be open to the idea after preliminary discussions. The Tree Commission will discuss the idea to partner with the University of Idaho for the 2026 Arbor Day celebration. If approved, the first step would be to meet with the UI to discuss in greater detail.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve Tree Commission representatives to discuss the potential to partner with the University of Idaho for the 2026 Arbor Day celebration; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Group discussed logistics and several places that would be ideal for beautification.

David Rauk moved to approve the beginning of discussions with the University. Jeanne seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Jeanne. Motion carried.

5. Consideration of Contractors Tree Pruning Education (ACTION ITEM) – David Rauk

The Tree Commission will discuss a proposal that pertains to creating a power point presentation that can be emailed to all the licensed tree contractors within the city of Moscow. The presentation would highlight proper pruning techniques developed by the two leading organizations in the industry: the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and Tree Care Industry (TCI). This would be emailed to each existing contractor once every year when license renewal notices are issued. The presentation would also be sent to newly licensed tree contractors. The education materials would be highly recommended to review.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the development of a draft presentation to be presented to the Tree Commission at a later regular meeting to discuss and approve; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

David Schott explained the steps for obtaining a tree contractor license.

The group would like to review and potentially rewrite the exam or portions of the exam. The contractor would be provided with complimentary literature on proper pruning.

David Rauk moved to approve moving forward with revision of exam, and additional educational materials. Mary Jo seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Jeanne. Motion carried.

UPDATES/REPORTS

1. 2025 Arbor Day Review – All

Group recapped the celebration and was overall happy with how it all turned out.

2. May 3, 2025, Farmers Market Review – All

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next Tree Commission Meeting: July 1, 2024

ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM

