

MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert
Commission Chair

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

David Schott
Staff Liaison

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Tuesday
December 2, 2025

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

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

PRESENT: Ellis Eifert (Chair); David Rauk (Vice Chair); Mary Jo Hamilton; Jeanne Leffingwell; Pam Brunsfield

STAFF: David Schott (Staff Liaison)

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission November 4, 2025 Minutes (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert

Presentation of minutes for approval.

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

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

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

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

None.

3. Consideration of the Tree Service Pruning Education Presentation (ACTION ITEM) – David Rauk

David Rauk has spearheaded the development of a draft “Proper Tree Pruning for Shade and Ornamental Trees” as an educational tool for our current and future tree contractors licensed to do tree work within the city for a fee.

The commission will discuss the draft content of the educational material as presented. If approved, staff will polish and finalize the educational pruning materials.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the draft content of the tree contractor educational materials; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

David R. presented a draft document he created using materials from International Society of Arboriculture. Once the draft is approved, City staff will finalize.

Mary Jo moves to approve the draft as presented; Pam seconded.

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

4. Consideration of the Spring 2027 Arbor Day Seedlings (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert – David Schott

The Tree Commission will discuss options for the 2027 Arbor Day celebration. The commission gives away tree seedlings at the first Farmers Market each year as part of Arbor Day.

The Pitkin Nursery has responded to the Tree Commission's request for Red Flowering Current, Incense Cedar, Native Mountain Ash, and European Beech. They should have the Incense Cedar, Mountain Ash, and European Beech but are unable to get seeds for Red Flowering Current.

The nursery has suggested Sticky Current as an alternative for the Red Flowering Current. They also have other species not in the current catalog: Buckhorn Cascara, Black Elderberry, English Walnut, and Sugar Pine.

The commission will discuss alternatives for the Red Flowering Current.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the seedling list for the 2027 Arbor Day celebration; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Pam provided some information against choosing Sticky Current. Some discussion.

Ben moves to approve Buckhorn Cascara as alternative. Jeanne seconded.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Moscow Garden Club of Latah County Presentation – David Rauk

David says the projector did not work, so he could not present his PowerPoint. He still shared information and the Club enjoyed it.

David says the updates to the general knowledge exam are complete and he is working on updating the study guide.

ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM

