

# MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert  
Commission Chair

**Regular Meeting**  
~Minutes~

David Schott  
Staff Liaison

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**Tuesday**  
**January 6, 2026**

**5:00 PM**

**Mayors Conference Room**  
**206 E 3rd Street**

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

**PRESENT:** Ellis Eifert (Chair); David Rauk (Vice Chair); Mary Jo Hamilton; Pam Brunnsfield; Mark Heinlein

**STAFF:** David Schott (Staff Liaison)

**WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission December 2, 2026 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.

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

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

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

None.

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

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

**3. Consideration of the 2026 Arbor Day Celebration Trees (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert – David Schott**

Staff will provide an update of the coordination efforts with the University of Idaho (UI) for the upcoming Arbor Day celebration. As part of our conversations with the UI, the Tree Commission will discuss the Arbor Day trees for consideration by the UI in the location agreed upon. The Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) and Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (SCASLA) suggested quaking aspen. The intent is to start a line of trees at the back of the pollinator garden to help block the view of the highway with hopes of continuing to plant a Campus USA tree each year. Since

these trees grow rather quickly, they hope that each tree they plant will show growth from year to year when planted in a line. The proposed idea does fit the theme "Trees for Future Generations."

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve the 2027 Arbor Day tree(s); or take other action as deemed appropriate.

The group discussed their fears of planting Aspen trees. They discussed appropriate tree species and decided on Cascara.

Mary Jo moves to approve the Cascara tree; Pam seconded.

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

**4. Consideration of the FY2026 Annual Tree Commission Budget (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott**

Each year the Tree Commission discusses and approves their annual budget for inclusion in the City budget request. The Tree Commission will review the FY2026 budget and discuss the upcoming FY2027 budget request.

**ACTION:** Approve the 2027 budget request; or take other such action deemed appropriate.

Some talk about the proposed budget being enough for seedlings. David says it will.

Mary Joe moves to approve the FY2027 budget amount, David seconds.

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

**5. Consideration of the 2025 Tree Commission Officers (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert**

Each year the Tree Commission elects a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for each calendar year. The Tree Commission will elect members within the Tree Commission for these positions for 2026. The 2025 officers were: Ellis Eifert, Chair; David Rauk, Vice Chair; Mary Jo Hamilton, Secretary.

**ACTION:** Elect the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary positions.

Pam moved to accept Ellis as Chair, David as Vice, and Mary Jo as secretary; David seconded.

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS**

Tree Cookie workshop was a success.

**ADJOURN** The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM

