

MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert
Commission Chair

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

David Schott
Staff Liaison

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

Tuesday
June 2, 2026

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

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

PRESENT: Ellis Eifert (Chair); Jeanne Leffingwell; Mary Jo Hamilton; Pam Brunsfield; Mark Heinlein; Gina Taruscio

STAFF: David Schott (Staff Liaison)

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Welcome Gina Taruscio to the Tree Commission

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Approval of Moscow Tree Commission, April 7, 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 directions.

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 15 minutes)**

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

3. **Consideration of the Tree City USA Growth Award Categories (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert / David Rauk**

The Tree Commission reviewed and discussed the current categories of the Arbor Day Foundations Tree City USA Growth Award at their July 1 and August 25, 2025, meetings. Reviewing these categories is an effort to generate future ideas and projects for the Tree Commission to work towards. The commission will identify and create a short list of project ideas to work on in the future. The link will take you to the Tree City

USA Growth Award under “Download Activity List.” <https://www.arborday.org/our-work/tree-city-usa/growth-award>

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Identify and approve future Tree Commission projects; or take other such actions as deemed appropriate.

- Group discussed the changing climate and weather patterns in Moscow and how that is affecting the older, established trees.
- Started talks on a Trees of the Future concept. A guide to caring for trees with a changing climate.
- Possibly working with the City on creating routine social media posts for greater reach.
- Working on having an updated tree inventory, and more public outreach opportunities were other ideas that were discussed.

UPDATES/REPORTS

1. 2026 Arbor Day – All

Changed up the celebration this year by working with the University of Idaho rather than elementary schools; which went very well.

Changes for next year: would start the planning for Arbor Day long before the actual celebration.

2. May 2 Farmers Market – All

Discussed how the tabling went, seedling giveaways and overall traffic to the table.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next Tree Commission Meeting: July 7, 2026

ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM

