

BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 2025 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order:

Kathy Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:31 P.M. on Monday, August 18, 2025.

2. Roll Call:

1. Kathy Mitchell – Chair – present
2. Hannah Daniels – Vice Chair – present
3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
4. Daniel (Danny) Buendia - present
5. Lynn Larsen – present
6. Richard (Rick) Kurcab – present
7. Amy Lentz – present

Quorum – 7/7 in attendance

- Sean Murphy – Town Liaison – absent
- Paul Furnas – Town Forester & Open Space Supervisor – present

3. Approval of Minutes from June and July 2025 Meetings:

- A quorum was available. Kathy moved to approve both months of notes. Randy seconded. All voice approved.

4. Public Comment or Non agenda items:

- a. There were no public comments.

5. Discussion Items:

- a. Cottonwood selection at the Arboretum
 - 1) Public comment – none.
 - 2) Paul expressed concern over the large number of cottonwoods specified in the current design.
 - 3) He has been made aware of some people having aggressive allergies to cottonwoods.
 - 4) Male trees have pollen; female trees have the cotton seeds.
 - 5) The cotton, when built up, is considered a highly flammable material.
 - 6) Paul would like to reduce the number of cottonwood trees to just 4 total.
 - 7) Amy said as an extension agent, she has not received many calls about pollen allergies.
 - 8) Many on committee felt the female cottonwoods are not sold anymore.
 - 9) Paul was looking for candidate trees for spade placement to get arboretum populated early.
Asking committee to look for possible trees that could be relocated.
 - 10) It appears the final construction documents are nearing completion and Paul will let the committee know when there will be a meeting to provide final comments.
 - 11) Randy asked if the tree list could be amended to include a column for priority of planting since it was discussed not all will be able to be planted right away.
 - 12) Hannah wanted to make sure language to protect existing trees be added to contracts. She will send Paul examples of language she has seen used in other locations.
 - 13) Danny assured the committee that he will be watching contractor compliance on future projects.

- b. Fall planting projects
 - 1) Public comment – none
 - 2) Bike Park map was shown on screen with expected planting locations.
 - 3) Waggener Farm Park map showed the expected planting locations.
 - a) Paul is looking to put in more fall perennials around pickleball courts.
 - b) It was suggested the “burning bush” be planted where there is protection. They will apparently be placed just to the east of the gym wall which will provide protection from North and West winds.
 - 4) Hillsdale Park will receive a number of trees where existing water rings are located.

6. Staff Report:

- a. Paul provided an update on staff completed and ongoing work.
 - 1) At Bien Park, a swamp white oak had died and was removed. Cause was not clear although exercise trail work that was done nearby may have had impact on roots.
 - 2) The crew has been repairing water rings at Hillsdale Park.
 - 3) Crew was shown doing clearance pruning at town hall.
 - 4) Paul participated at Regis University arborist seminar.
 - 5) Paul showed slide of quoted prices for calendar printing as the deadline is coming up fast.
 - a) Four members have voted. Kathy took the poster package to vote next.
 - b) Rick offered to pick up the posters and deliver to the next person when she is done.
 - c) Hannah asked about the form letter used by city when requesting sponsorship.
 - 6) Oktoberfest participation was discussed. Date of event is October 4.
 - a) It appears that the Master Gardeners will not be joining the booth team at this event.
 - 7) Paul clarified that the committee members whose positions are due to expire will be expected to attend the September meeting.
 - a) Kathy said she would be available for interviews.

7. Adjourn:

- Kathy adjourned the meeting at 6:35 P.M. on the 18th day of August 2025.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 15th, 2025, at 5:30 pm**

Signature:



Raj Rhee
for BTAC 10/9/25