

1 **City of Lake Forest Park – Tree Board Meeting**
2 **Meeting Minutes: May 07, 2025; 7:00-9:00pm**
3 **Hybrid Meeting Held in the Forest Room at City Hall and Virtually via Zoom**
4

5 **Tree Board Members present:** Richard Saunders, Victoria Kutasz, Stacey Spain, Doug Sprugel,
6 and Mark Phillips
7

8 **Staff and others present:** Larry Goldman, LFP City Council; Drue Epping, Urban Forest Planner;
9 Elizabeth Talavera, Assistant Planner
10

11 **Members of the Public present:** BJ Hedahl
12

13 **Tree Board Members absent:** Richard Olmstead
14

15 **Call to order:** 7:00 PM
16

17 **Short Reflection:** LFP resident, BJ Hedahl, gave a short reflection on her experience growing up in
18 the City of Lake Forest Park.
19

20 **Introductions:** No introductions.
21

22 **Approval of Meeting Agenda:** Board member Sprugel motioned to approve the agenda; Board
23 member Saunders seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously with no changes.
24

25 **Approval of Minutes:** Board member Saunders motioned to approve the minutes; Vice Chair
26 Kutasz seconded. The April 2025 minutes were approved unanimously with the suggested edits.
27

28 **Public Comment:** No public comments.
29

30 **Next meeting:** The next meeting occurs on June 04, 2025.
31

32 **Reports and Announcements:**
33

34 Tree Board Update

35 Vice Chair Kutasz gave an update on the Climate Policy Advisory Team meeting. The CPAT team
36 debuted the draft of the Climate Element at an open house.
37

38 Councilmember Goldman Update

39 Councilmember Goldman announced that City Council Member Bodi passed away. Due to the
40 tragic event, applications have opened to fill the seat for a temporary appointment until elections are
41 held.
42

43 City Staff Update

44 No staff update.
45
46
47
48

1 **Old Business:**

2 Arbor Day Recap

3 The Tree Board members discussed the event of Arbor Day. The Tree Board members stated there
4 was a good turn out with good accolades for the Tree Walk. Chair Phillips suggested hosting another
5 tree walk at a cemetery.
6

7 5 Acre Woods

8 Ms. Epping stated that she can give City advice/ recommendations when she receives information
9 about the project description. Chair Phillips suggested collaborating with the high school interact
10 club to get volunteers for the project.
11

12 City Council presentation/ consideration of updated Exceptional Tree List

13 Ms. Epping presented a red-lined draft of the updated Exceptional Tree code and the General Tree
14 List. For the next steps, Ms. Epping stated that she will forward the draft to the Community
15 Development Director and the City attorney.
16

17 Community Forest Management Plan

18 Board member Saunders presented a draft outline that was created through ChatGPT to see ways in
19 which the community forest management plan should be updated in comparison to surrounding
20 cities.
21

22 Ms. Epping stated that she would get an update from the SFI grant by the end of June for the grant
23 budget to see if the city would obtain enough money to pay for a consultant to see where the city is
24 currently at to see how to proceed with the tree canopy assessment and the community forest
25 management plan.
26

27 **New Business:**

28 Tree Ordinance Updates

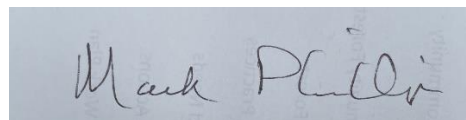
29 The board discussed this item with the Exceptional Tree List.
30

31 **Agenda for Next Meeting:** The Board will be discussing Climate Element draft, 5 Acre Woods,
32 and the Public Benefit Rating System.
33

34 **Adjournment:** Vice Chair Kutasz motioned to end the meeting and board member Spain seconded.
35

36 Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM
37
38

APPROVED:

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink. The signature appears to read "Mark Phillips".

Mark Phillips, Chair