



URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

July 24, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

Commission Chair Mose Dunkel called the meeting of the Urban Forestry Commission to order at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 24, 2025, in Council Chambers at City Hall, 1123 W Lake Street, Sandpoint, Idaho.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mose Dunkel, Chair
Chase Youngdahl, Vice Chair
Paige Belfry
Preston Andrews

ABSENT

Geoff Gregory

Also present were City Council liaison Kyle Schreiber, staff liaison Erik Bush, and Deputy City Clerk Hayley Keys, serving as board clerk.

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. The minutes from the Commission's June 26, 2025, meeting were approved as presented.

Motion made by Andrews, Seconded by Youngdahl
Voting Yea: Dunkel, Youngdahl, Andrews, Belfry

Old/Unfinished Business

2. Continue Discussion of Categories and Definitions for Heritage and Other Valuable Trees in Sandpoint

The Commissioners discussed definitions for heritage and other valuable trees in Sandpoint, followed by a motion by Commissioner Youngdahl to accept definition numbers 2-5 and revisit definition number 1 following Mr. Bush's meeting with the Sandpoint Arts, Culture and Historic Preservation Commission the following month. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Commissioners present, as reflected below.

Motion made by Youngdahl, Seconded by Andrews
Voting Yea: Dunkel, Youngdahl, Andrews, Belfry

Definitions as discussed:

1. Historical- A tree which by virtue of its association with or contribution to a historical structure or district, or its association with a noted citizen or historical event.
2. Specimen- Age, size, health, or aesthetic factors may qualify the tree as unique among the species in Sandpoint, Idaho.
3. Rare- One or very few of a kind, or is unusual in some form of growth or species.

4. Significant Grove- Outstanding or significant groups of trees that impact the city's landscape.
5. Ecological- A tree that provides a unique ecological benefit or service to the urban environment.

3. Continue Discussion of the Arboricultural Manual

After an update on the Arboricultural Manual, the Commission agreed to continue working on sections of the Arboricultural Manual, with continued discussion planned for the next meeting.

New Business – none

General Announcements/Comments

The Commissioners discussed the elm trees on S. Boyer Avenue, spongy moth traps, birch trees on Ella Avenue, mulching trees in the public parking lot downtown, and the possibility of partnering with the Bonner County Library for Arbor Day 2026. Information only; no Commission action.

Adjourn

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that these minutes, prepared by the board clerk, were approved by the Commission during their meeting on _____, 2025.

Mose Dunkel, Board Chair

Attest: Hayley Keys, Deputy City Clerk