

**Minutes**  
**Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission**  
**July 13, 2020 Via Zoom**

Members Present: Andrew Heckaman, Gail Bason, Bobbi Strangfeld, Andrea Betts, Sean Creighton, Kate Miller, Todd Wales, Sherry Callaghan, Nancy Averett (City Council Representative) and Mike Lippert (Staff Representative)

Minutes of May 27, 2020 (No June Meeting)

Minutes were approved as amended.

Old Business:

**UFBC Annual Report to Council:** The annual report has been prepared and is ready to present to City Council on August 17. A PowerPoint presentation is anticipated.

**Beautify Wyoming Awards:** The Commission voted to award the following properties (Person responsible to interview owner shown in parenthesis):

121 Linden	Dawn Redwood (Todd)
312 Burns	Landscaping (Gail)
430 Reily	Landscaping (Kate)
105 Stearns	Landscaping (Bobbi)
51 West Charlotte	Oak Tree (Andrea)
147 Linden	Oak Tree (Andrew)
336 Pleasant Hill	Oak Tree (Sean)
917 Springfield Pike	Weeping Purple Beech (Nancy)

Mike will provide owner information via email.

**Master Plan:** The Commission voted for the Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission to be listed as a stakeholder for the following potential projects/programs or initiatives listed in the 2018 Master Plan:

1. The Civic Center exterior grounds
2. Wyoming Recreation Center frontage
3. Village Green improvements
4. Establishment of ecological restoration guidelines/regulations
5. Continue to remove invasive species throughout the City and plant native vegetation on public lands as practical
6. Improve existing parks, trails, and recreation facilities.

**UFBC Garden Tour:** This proposed plan was postponed until 2021 due to scheduling issues. We anticipate setting up a committee in January to begin detailed planning for next spring.

**Stormwater Workshop:** As noted previously, this is tentatively scheduled for September 12 at City Council chambers. The speaker is still set. A final decision on whether to cancel the event based on COVID-19 will be made next month.

**Tree Sale:** Because of funding issues due to COVID-19, there will be no tree sale in 2020.

**Fall Festival:** The Commission has received no information on whether the fall festival will occur this year or not.

**Ash Tree at 311 Poage Farm:** The property owner at 311 Poage Farm requested to take down 2 city ash trees in front of this property due to an overabundance of trees there. Existing private beech trees and an oak tree (as well as the ash) have resulted in too much shade to effectively grow grass. After much discussion, the Commission voted to continue the city standard and disallow public tree removal unless the tree is dead, dying or hazardous.

New Business:

**Tree Inventory Update:** Todd Wales has completed over 90% of the street tree inventory. The Poage Farm area is the only area left to survey. Then, he plans to move onto park tree inventory.

Mike tallied Todd's data from a couple of weeks ago. He reported over 4,200 trees surveyed. 50% of trees were 9" and under. 70% of trees were 12" and under. Tree sizes ranged from 1"-66". The top 10 species, which make up 84% of street trees, are ash, cherry, crabapple, elm, linden, locust, maple, oak, pear, and zelkova. Trees have been plotted on the city's GIS map.

Mike will present final tallies and PDF drawings of street trees following the completion of Todd's work.

**Green Areas Trust/Ritchie Preserve:** No report.

Miscellaneous: Andrew is working on updating the watering schedule for the pollinator garden.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Mike Lippert